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JPRS-UMA-88-016
27 JULY 1988

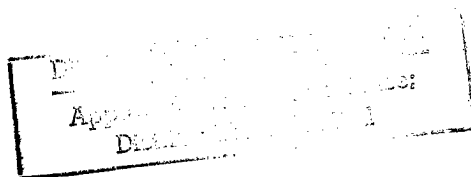


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JPRS Report



Soviet Union

Military Affairs

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET ARMED FORCES

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Soviet Union

Military Affairs

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET ARMED FORCES

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27 JULY 1988

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70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOVIET ARMED FORCES

On a Level of Today's Demands

18010354c Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian
No 2, Feb 88 pp 11-13

[Interview with Army Gen I.M. Tretyak, commander-in-chief of the Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy minister of defense, Hero of the Soviet Union and Hero of Socialist Labor: "On a Level of Today's Demands"; time and place of interview and interviewer not given]

[Text] [Question] Comrade commander-in-chief, we link many concepts which in one way or another describe a state's defense might with the word "dependable."

What is understood by dependable national air defense? What criteria determine this concept?

[Answer] First of all, I would like to emphasize that the tension of the present-day international situation and the wagging of the probable enemy on a surprise and massed employment of various air attack weapons make extremely acute the question of ensuring a dependable air defense for the nation. The necessity of constantly strengthening air defense stems logically from the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact countries and which by its nature is strictly defensive and is designed primarily to repel possible aggression.

Modern air defense is a range of measures carried out within the unified system of the country and the Armed Forces as well as combat itself for defending the economic, administrative-political centers, and the troop groupings against air strikes. This is carried out by the Air Defense Forces in close cooperation with the air defense forces of the other USSR Armed Services.

The dependability of air defense is determined by the advanced organization, establishment and equipment, by the training level of the personnel of the headquarters bodies, formations, units and subunits of the Air Defense Troops and which make it possible to thwart any encroachments against the air frontiers of the Soviet state.

If one speaks about the criteria of air defense dependability, these reflect the level of our troops' combat potential for all components, and the capacity to quickly embody the potential in combat might. Precisely these characterize at present the high combat readiness of the formations, units and subunits designed to destroy the air enemy.

Moreover, the quality of standing alert duty is the initial criterion of dependability. On alert duty it is particularly essential to have the highest vigilance and organization, the strictest implementation of the provisions of the Law Governing the USSR State Frontier, the documents

regulating the procedures for standing it, the maintaining of equipment and weapons in readiness for immediate use as well as able troop command and control. An underestimation of even one of these most important components can lead to the nonfulfillment of a battle task, as happened, for example, on 28 May of last year when West German light aircraft violated our air frontier.

The sharp and principled assessment given by the Party Central Committee of what happened, in essence, the starting point for the restructuring of the Air Defense Forces and for further improving the air defense system. The implementation of the specific ideas of the CPSU Central Committee and the demands of the USSR minister of defense on alert duty is presently the main focus of all our work.

The dependability of the air defense system to a decisive degree depends as well upon the state of troop morale and upon how they have mastered the advanced combat procedures as well as study and add to the glorious combat traditions of our Armed Service.

[Question] The moving of the tasks of combatting qualitatively new attack weapons to the forefront has predetermined the essence of the revolutionary stage occurring in the development of the Armed Forces. How are these changes being reflected specifically for the Air Defense forces?

[Answer] The revolution in military affairs has naturally not bypassed our Armed Service.

The most advanced weaponry and equipment developed by Soviet scientists and designers make it possible to increase significantly the effective combat of the air enemy. The most important of these advances are: sufficient mobility, multichannel information sources, a high rate of fire, resistance to interference and survivability. We are confident that the restructuring going on in our nation and the shifts in the economy will tell favorably on the pace of introducing these modern air defense weapons into practice as well as increasing their reliability.

The changes in the means and methods of an enemy launch of massed air strikes and the realization of the "reconnaissance-strike" principle raise the role and importance of the joint employment of various air defense forces, the price of the first battle for carrying out the tasks of defending the installations and troops, the stability of air defense and so forth. That is, many aspects of tactics, operational art and troop control are touched upon. Here the commanders and staffs have been aided by automation and computers. The mathematical modelling of combat conducted on their basis makes it possible to choose the optimum version of the plan and organize cooperation between the different Armed Services and combat arms.

The effectiveness of modern air defense combat to a greater degree now than ever before, depends upon the quality of the radar and other types of reconnaissance and upon broadening the channels for receiving information about the air enemy as well as the speed of its processing.

Under these conditions, the commanders and staffs must be steadily armed with a knowledge of the dialectical laws of armed combat, the theory and practice of conducting modern battle.

[Question] How would you formulate those main, chief areas of work which determine the essence of the changes outlined in the Air Defense Troops?

[Answer] To speak generally, this would mean the achieving of the high end results in combat training corresponding to the requirements of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR minister of defense. At present, the main thing is to see to it that the plans and obligations do not remain on paper, as has repeatedly occurred, but without fail are turned into real deeds. And here a particular role is played by the intensifying of combat training.

In the future, we must constantly bring combat training closer to the air defense tasks, to strengthen its practical focus, and decisively introduce elements of combine-arms combat into each exercise and drill.

At present we are doing extensive work in this area. It has brought definite results. However, we need not partial "cosmetic" changes but rather a fundamental breaking of a whole series of established stereotypes in the training of the air defense troops. The efforts of the generals and officers of both the central system as well as the other troop elements are focused on this.

For this purpose, a restructuring has been carried out for the combat training programs and courses of the combat arms. The standards for carrying out tasks have been made more complicated for the air defense units and subunits in the course of the tactical exercises, including the field firing. At the ranges, they have virtually doubled the number of points for the release of radio-controlled targets and specific measures have been undertaken to substantially complicate the jamming situation. At present we are giving serious thought to actually bringing the training of the personnel close to conditions of combat reality at the permanent positions of the units and subunits. We will do this as long as there is a large gap between the range conditions and the so-called "home" conditions.

One of the powerful reserves for increasing the effectiveness of combat training is seen, in particular, in further improving cooperation between the Air Defense Troops and the Air Forces on the questions of organizing and conducting two-sided exercises on the unit level, as well as in the wider use of real flights by military aviation.

particularly the jammers. We realize that only in this manner is it possible to make the tactical situation as complex as possible in working through the combat training tasks.

[Question] Thus, the goals have been set. And what tasks, proceeding from the goals, have been set for the command and for the staffs as well as the personnel of the units and subunits during the current training year?

[Answer] Many of them have already been named. But, probably, the main one now for us is to do everything so that in the future the Soviet people have no doubts as to the dependability of our air defenses.

In military service, M.S. Gorbachev emphasized at a recent meeting with the Northern Fleet sailors, everything should be dependable and sound, and order must be maintained on every question. This also has the most direct bearing on us. We consider it our most important task to bring all the life and activity of the troops into strictest accord with the requirements of the moment being lived through.

There must be a major change toward the strengthening of discipline, and we must decisively affirm the authority of the regulations in all levels of the troops. We are now involved in this. The task has been set of preventing any infractions or instances of the manifestation of negligence, laxness and irresponsibility on the part of officials, and an indifferent attitude toward subordinates.

Intensifying the human factor depends directly upon the professionalism, competence and moral qualities of the officers. I would like to emphasize that at present it is impossible to make a decisive turn toward the quality training of the troops without raising the role of the solely responsible commander to the proper level. This is particularly true of the unit commander who is, in essence, the main proponent of restructuring in the troops. In working with this category of our personnel, we emphasize the developing in them of the qualities of true battle organizers capable of uniting the efforts of the men and directing them to carrying out the battle tasks.

This is precisely what many air defense officers presently lack. The supervision over the activities of the commanders must be combined with the granting to them of greater independence, and we must develop and encourage in every possible way their creativity and initiative, particularly in organizing the training process. At times we seemingly hobble them with petty interference and frequent rebuffs. And then we are surprised when certain officers follow every word of the superior and are afraid of taking an independent decision. We must see to it that in actuality personal responsibility of each leader is provided for high-quality execution, using the words of V.I. Lenin, of a definite and firmly defined job.

The carrying out of the party's social policy is an important task. We cannot tolerate the current level of rear support and everyday facilities for our troops. This is extremely low in many places, primarily in the remote subunits of the radio-technical and antiaircraft missile units. Attention to the social and routine conditions is one of the main areas for strengthening troop combat readiness.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that it is impossible carry out the entire range of tasks confronting the troops if we do not take up the lessons of the 27th CPSU Congress as well as the theses and conclusions contained in the materials devoted to the 70th anniversary of Great October. The mastery of these is a guarantee for our success in further strengthening the air defenses of our motherland.

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To Study Military Affairs Effectively

180103541 Moscow KOMMUNIST
VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 4, Feb 88
pp 27-33

[Article by Army Gen Yu. Maksimov, commander-in-chief of the Strategic Rocket Troops and USSR deputy minister of defense: "To Study Military Affairs Effectively"]

[Text] For 70 years now the Soviet Armed Forces have guarded the socialist fatherland. Created in the flames of the revolutionary battles by the Communist Party, they have fought their way through the fiery years of the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars and struggled to achieve, strengthen and maintain the military strategic parity under the conditions of the actually existing danger of aggression from imperialism. Numerous testings have befallen our army which is truly and offspring of its people, their steadfast defender who raises its mighty sword only for a just cause. And the army emerged from these honorably because always and under all conditions the people and the army have been guided by Lenin's admonishment of studying military affairs effectively.

To study constantly to defend the motherland. This is not a temporary campaign or a slogan. It is a law the necessity of which has been caused by the ongoing advance of weapons and military equipment and by changes in the forms and methods of armed combat. Its timeliness has risen in our days. The new Soviet military doctrine aimed at reducing the danger of the unleashing of a nuclear missile war capable of bringing the world to disaster has a clearly expressed defensive nature. In the event of attack, our Armed Forces should be ready, together with the allied armies, to securely defend the interests and security of our motherland and the entire

socialist commonwealth, to deal a crushing rebuff to the aggressor under any conditions of waging war. In order to ensure readiness for this, we must study constantly and steadily.

Experience shows that a further rise in the combat readiness and the strengthening of military discipline to a significant degree depend upon the establishing of a rhythmical training process among the troops, the excluding of weaknesses and oversimplifications in training and upon the full coverage of the personnel in combat training. For this reason the main area in the practical work of the commanders, political bodies and staffs of the Strategic Rocket Troops is a fundamental improvement in the quality of combat training. Here particular attention is given to its most important component parts: the training of the alert shifts, the field skills and the training of officer personnel. We see an important means in achieving positive shifts in sharply improving the quality and results of the exercises and drills.

The main areas in improving the training methods for the personnel of the alert shifts are predetermined by the higher demands on their professional and moral-psychological skills, on the able employment of automated systems and modern equipment, on the independent taking of decisions and the carrying out of suddenly arising tasks in standing alert duty as well as high coordination between the shifts and crews. For this reason the traditional forms of exercises, when each subunit or training group is trained separately in the various subjects of instruction are not applicable. We must have a comprehensive approach to the training methods for the alert shifts. The essence of this can be traced in the example of the unit where officer Ye. Shuplyak serves. Here all the shifts and crews before going on alert duty are trained at the same time. The commander directs their training. The training of the men is carried out not separately but in a close cooperation, following a single tactical plan. The exercises have a strictly practical focus and the training tasks which are worked out are precisely those which must be performed in real combat and for this a difficult situation is created. In the training procedures physical and psychological training of the servicemen holds an active place and the corresponding training facilities have been created and actively employed.

On the basis of the experience of this and other advanced units, training methods have been developed for the alert shifts and these are now are being introduced in all the Rocket Troops units and subunits. In the prompt mastery of these methods an important role is played by the party and Komsomol organizations. It was precisely the active stance of the communists in one of the previous lagging units, where the communist officer G. Brazhnik was a party bureau member, that made it possible in a comparatively short period of time to improve the skill level of the alert duty personnel. First of all here they chose the correct focus. By the start of the training year,

instructor procedural exercises were held with all the subunit commanders and the exercise leaders for the shifts. Training facilities were prepared and here they completely eliminated all defects and malfunctions. A procedure was instituted where on the eve of conducting an integrated drill they inspected the readiness of the exercise leaders directly at the point they were to be held and tested out the trainers and communications for proper functioning. The strictest measures of an administrative and party nature were taken to exclude instances of the diverting of the servicemen from the exercises. The unit procedural council began to take an active part in working out the plans of the exercises, the reference outlines and training aids. All of this helped to achieve positive results and to strengthen organization and order. The unit is steadily carrying out the assumed socialist obligations.

A most important component in combat readiness is field skills. This determines the ability of the formations, units and subunits as well as each individual serviceman to successfully conduct combat and achieve the fulfillment of the set tasks under any situational conditions. The training process in the field, at control posts and on the equipment makes it possible with maximum closeness to model modern combat and creates the best conditions for improving the skill of the men and for developing their high moral-political, psychological and combat qualities. The realization of these opportunities to a decisive degree depends upon the professional training of the commanders and informative, concrete party political work.

The troops have many commanders and political workers who correctly understand and carry out this task. Working successfully in the exercises were the units where communists V. Zharko and G. Pronin serve. Here reconnaissance was carried out with due carefulness, the marches of the subunits and their complete support were effectively organized and control was carried out on a proper level. These positive shifts in the skills of the Rocket Troops did not come about by themselves. Great work was invested in the organizing of training to achieve them. Particular attention was given to instructing subordinate commanders and staffs in the control of combat. This was done not only theoretically but also practically under conditions where the officers should act realistically and bring skills to the point of being automatic. Here they employ a completely thought out system of drills using maps, communications equipment, in the field and at control posts. Group exercises and operational-tactical drills are also conducted.

However, the combat training has not been organized in such a manner everywhere. The following fact is proof of this. In one of the exercises in the unit where officer V. Terekhov serves, the commander showed an inability to clearly and precisely set the task for subordinates, to give orders for the march, he was unable to use a map and organize the carrying out of his own decisions on time. In

this unit many commanders, particularly the staff officers, did not consider it necessary not only to plot the required situation on the map, but did not know where the unit commander and subunit commanders were at the time. Certainly this is a question of the reliability and correctness of control by the senior commander and staff. The questions of organizing reconnaissance were not of concern to the unit and subunit commanders, the tasks here were set in a most general manner and the assigned forces were readied for action hurriedly and without proper effectiveness. All these failings ultimately told on the actions of the subunits and led to a delay in their carrying out of the set task.

In the process of conducting exercises in special tactical training and other subjects, the improving of field skills requires the strict observance of the principle of "teaching the troops what is required in war." For this it is essential to see to it that each exercise is carried out effectively, with high results, that the questions of improving training effectiveness be resolved comprehensively for all questions of combat training, that a situation be created which is as close as possible to combat, and that a struggle be conducted decisively against oversimplification and weaknesses in the course of the exercises, particularly in conducting drills.

In the training of the troops and staffs obviously one should not give the trainees the complete data about the "enemy," as often happens, and there must be the proper response and party assessment for a negligent attitude toward studying the forces of the opposing side and the situation as a whole as well as to the organizing of reconnaissance. We feel that it makes sense, in the absence of concrete intelligence data on the nature of "enemy" actions, its weapons and man-made obstacles, the subunits and units being trained should not be given a "success," but by additional inputs these questions should be worked out more completely and profoundly. In all exercises at present it is essential to teach the procedures for conducting reconnaissance, the crossing of obstacles and mined areas by all the personnel. What is particularly important, there is any urgent need to teach the men to act under the conditions of the wide employment of electronic suppression equipment, weapons of mass destruction and high precision weapons.

The actions of the troops to a decisive degree depend upon skillful leadership and the skill level of the commanders and all officer personnel. For this reason, the military council, the main staff and the political directorate see their primary task in sharply improving the quality of commander training and ensuring the growth of the level of professional and educational training for the officers, particularly commanders. Some of them erroneously feel that their role is merely to take decisions and set general tasks while all the rest is a matter for subordinates. For this reason the work of monitoring the issuing of tasks, their study in the field, the organizing of cooperation and preparation of the subunits and units for the forthcoming fighting is not properly organized. In

exercises, in the complicated situation of modern combat, at times even well trained officers show poor independence, a lack of initiative in carrying out tasks and wait hoping for a suggestion from a senior chief or umpire. This shows that they are accustomed to constant interference and are afraid of responsibility.

Obviously these serious shortcomings in officer training to a definite degree were established in individual training institutions, where using standard tasks and solutions the future commanders are constantly prompted and a rote manner in their thinking is developed. Hence we must help the officers learn to apply the theoretical concepts of Soviet military art in a nonroutine and creative manner in the practices of military affairs, considering the specific conditions of the situation, the field, and the other particular features of fighting. The commanders must also develop independence and initiative in action. For this, of course, it is essential to create the corresponding conditions and not fear mistakes and incorrect actions by the commanders but rather help them eliminate these and learn.

It also happens that at times individual officers have a poor understanding of the equipment and weapons and are unable to actually employ them under various conditions. For this reason the high combat capabilities of the weapons systems are not fully employed. How can we avoid this? In our troops a system of improving officer skills is being introduced at permanent assemblies and courses and in the units there is training directly on the equipment. Particular attention is given to studying those weapons specifications which determine the effectiveness of their combat employment. The training system and the awarding of class qualifications also must become a powerful lever in increasing officer skill. This helps improve the special and tactical training. At the same time, in awarding a class rating attention is not always paid to combining high special training with the obligatory ability to control the weapon and the men or to the tactical skills of an officer. As a result officers are encountered like, for example, in the subunits under the command of Comrades A. Verin, A. Pukhov and A. Bardin. Here there are high class ratings but poor performance in the exercises.

Who needs such a class rating? Formalism on this question does great harm and in this instance the blame rests not only on the officers themselves but also on the qualification commissions the members of which are officers V. Balashov, S. Murdzhani and A. Sidorov as well as on the political bodies which are indifferent to such a formal approach.

An officer's educational skills presently play a particular role in his professional level. He must be trained not only as a specialist but also as the organizer of the training of subordinates and the leader of training exercises. Such a focus should be established in each plan, program and in a majority of commander exercises. Precisely in this area of officer training as in no other, one should strictly

observe the principle of "the superior instructs his subordinate." This is understood well by the communist, officer N. Mikhaylov. For 7 years now, the collective which he leads has won the title of outstanding and demonstrates good field skills and teamwork. For the commander and his deputies, it has become a rule to instruct the officers in educational methods in the course of the immediate preparations for the exercises. The officers are given tasks ahead of time, instruction sessions are held, and practical aid is given. The inspection of readiness for exercises on each day has become an inseparable, customary element in the daily regimen. The party organization also places high demands on the quality of the personal preparation of the communists for the exercises. Objective criticism in the party meetings is leveled against those who are not concerned with improving their educational skills, who rely on old habits and do not employ the experience of the best officers.

Another way for improving the quality of exercise is the intensifying of the training process and increasing the load on each trainee in the course of the exercise. The way to achieve this can be to integrate the tactical and special tactical training with weapons, technical, physical and other training subjects. A combining of these exercises provides a good result when the units go to the field training centers which have tactical fields, driving areas, firing ranges, areas for related physical training and other elements of the field training facilities. The integrated exercises make it possible not only to increase the effectiveness of training but also help to develop high moral-combat and psychological qualities in the men and the ability to act boldly and decisively in carrying out battle tasks under conditions where the enemy has employed weapons of mass destruction and within a maximum short time.

Modern training facilities are of particular importance for the Rocket Troops, as it is impossible to work out many actions and standards with sufficient completeness using the combat equipment. In line with this, integrated trainers have been developed on a basis of the wide employment of computers and these have been provided to an absolute majority of units. The creation of field training facilities has basically been completed. However, in individual units in equipping the facilities they have followed the easy way out and have used temporary materials, they have not prevented the flooding of the installations by floodwaters and have neglected to build the necessary roads, areas and warming stations.

The ongoing greater complexity and increased cost of training equipment, the field and barracks and training facilities require a new solution to the problem of maintaining them in proper working order. First of all we must improve their maintenance system and do what is done for combat equipment. This means: to plan intelligently and conduct periodically adjustments and technical maintenance with the involvement of the necessary

forces. At the same time the training facilities by themselves do not solve all problems. We still must learn to use these effectively, prevent stoppages, seeing to it that every exercise, without exception, should have proper logistic support.

Something else I would like to say. All our plans will become a reality if each commander, political worker and party activist will show constant concern so that combat training is actually combat training and is considered irreplaceable. I say this because there are many examples of low results from the work of the unit commands and major oversights in organizing the personnel. At the same time, it must be recognized that this is also the result of flaws in the work style of personnel from the senior headquarters elements, including the central. Not all the directorates and services have achieved stable changes for the better and in some places there are no changes at all. One of the bottlenecks is the poor quality work done by the senior chiefs in the troops. Improvement in this area depends upon the style of activities of the officers and generals, their methods of leadership, as well as the ability to find new approaches to the men and to vital questions. For this reason, this question is constantly at the center of attention of the military council, the high staff and the political directorate of the Rocket Troops. Life convinces us that there must be a constant analysis of the state of affairs on the basis of which it would be possible to take concrete measures of a preventive nature in the instances of a decline or major shortcomings in the combat readiness and training of the troops.

Such measures were required for the unit where the officers V. Shapovalov and V. Karayev serve. Here many commanders and political workers pay little attention to the quality of combat training, the personnel is frequently diverted to other jobs, instruction sessions and meetings take up a significant amount of working time and violations of the exercise schedules are permitted. Because of this the missile troops naturally did not excel in crack professional skills. For this reason quite recently a study was made on the state of affairs in organizing training. An integrated group of generals and officers from the central personnel was present at the exercises, it participated in the preparation of certain of these, it provided help and conducted several exercises in preparing the alert shifts as well as in special tactical training. Special attention was paid to instructing newly appointed commanders. At the same time a principled party discussion was held with the leader communists and this helped largely to change the style of their activity and, consequently, to improve the quality of the training and indoctrination process.

It must be assumed that such an approach brings greater benefit than any directives and meetings. Unfortunately, the work in the troops by officers from the superior staffs, including from the central personnel, is not always carried out in this manner. In a number of instances it has a supervisory or inspection nature and not only does

not help the commanders on the spot but even disrupts the combat training plans. This, of course, does not help. Life urgently requires an energetic improvement in the leadership style and methods, that it, to go deeply into the plans of the subordinate commanders, staffs and political bodies in order not to disrupt but, on the contrary, to ensure their high quality execution. Hence a visit to the troops must be prepared so that the profession and educational preparations of the senior generals and officers make it possible not only to detect shortcomings but also to instruct and practically help the commanders in organizing the carrying out of the basic measures and eliminating the basic shortcomings. We feel that the party organizations of the directorates and services have not had their say here. They are not always demanding for those who merely maintain the pose of a workers from the central personnel and are not concerned for its authority. At present there must be strict demands for efficiency and professionalism.

Great responsibility for the state of combat training rests on the party organizations of the units and subunits. By activating the human factor, they must help to decisively overcome the phenomena of stagnation in combat training, they must work against sham, deception and formalism. Many of them do this. The attitude of the communist officers to the performing of their official and party duty is constantly at the center of attention of the party organization which for 3 years now has been headed by the communist, officer Yu. Myagkov. The party bureau and its secretary place great demands on the CPSU members for the quality of the combat and political training exercises and deal strictly with those who do not show zeal in service or are not concerned for the honor of the collective and its high combat teamwork. At the same time in every possible way they propagandize the experience of the best specialists and the pacesetters in the socialist competition. Men who are bold, searching and not afraid of assuming responsibility are always supported by the party organization and its bureau.

It is no accident that here 40 percent of the combat launch crews have been graded "outstanding" and the combat training missile launches have been carried out with outstanding indicators. For 16 years now this unit has not had an accident and the discipline and moral-psychological tempering of the missile troops are high. In the collective one out of every three men is an outstanding man in military and political training, 20 percent is masters of military affairs and 60 percent is higher class specialists. This is largely due to the work of the party organization, its bureau and secretary, the communist Yu. Myagkov.

Unfortunately, the work of the party organizations has not been organized in this manner everywhere. The subunits under the command of officers V. Vasilyev and V. Garkovenko in previous exercises have shown poor skills. At a party meeting conducted after an exercise, the communists directly pointed to the main reason for such a major failing: there are seemingly many exercises, even

more than required by the program, but the benefit from them is low and they are conducted poorly. All of this is right. But didn't the communists themselves see this and did they not participate in the exercises? A party organization should always show exactingness and concern for the state of affairs, but it is better if these are prompt and make it possible to anticipate drops in troop combat skills. This is one of the opportunities for a true party influence on a further improvement in the work style and methods of the leading command and political personnel.

At present the course has been firmly set of an irrevocable overcoming of oversimplification, connivance and the eradicating of formalism in the field skills of the missile troops. However, all that has been planned and conceived can be carried out under the condition of exemplary prescribed order and strictest military discipline. Along with precise organization of the training process, particular attention should be paid by each commander to the social sphere, to the living and domestic problems. Life indicates that a majority of the infractions of order and prescribed standards occurs precisely due to disorder, domestic problems or the inability to organize mass sports work, independent training and mass political measures. It would be more accurate to say that this is due to the fact that certain commanders, political workers, party and Komsomol activists do not find this to their liking. It is impossible to fence oneself off from how the men live, if we want discipline in our units to be on a level corresponding to the demands of the times.

After the signing of the treaty between the USSR and the United States on eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles and aimed at strengthening peace and security in our world, as before high demands are placed on the combat readiness of the troops. For this reason the energy and efforts of the commanders, the political bodies, the party organizations and all the personnel are directed at fundamentally improving combat training and strengthening military discipline.

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Military Procuracy: History, Modern Tasks
18010354k Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA
ZAKONNOST in Russian No 2, 1988 pp 8-11

[Article, published under the heading "Toward the 70th Anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces," by B. Popov, chief military procurator: "The Military Procuracy: History and Modern Tasks"]

[Text] The new revolutionary order established in the interests of the working classes as a result of the victory of Great October also required new means for its defense and the establishing of a system of law-protection bodies

which could ensure revolutionary legality in the state as well as the strictest discipline, combat readiness and capability of the Armed Forces.

With the establishing of the procuracy in 1922, the military procuracy initially operated as part of the People's Commissariat of Justice. One of the assistant republic procurators carried out the procuracy functions under the Supreme Tribunal of the VTsIK [All-Russian Central Executive Committee] and provided leadership over the military procurators.

The formation of the Soviet procuracy had direct bearing also on the USSR Armed Forces, the development and combat might of which were dependent upon the strengthening of legality and military discipline in them.

In the first enforceable enactment specially devoted to the activities of the military procuracy, the Instructions to the Military Procurators and Their Assistants announced on 4 January 1923 by an order of the Republic Revolutionary Military Council [RVSR], the military procuracy was made responsible for supervising the legality of actions by officials and institutions, the protesting of illegal orders and instructions as well as combatting crime.

The first Chief Military Procurator was Sergey Nikolaevich Orlovskiy who had completed the legal faculty of Moscow University, who was an active participant in the Civil War and awarded two Orders of the Red Banner for courage and valor. From 1922, S. Orlovskiy held leading military procuracy positions and later through 1935, headed the RKKA [Worker Peasant Red Army] Military Procuracy.

Subsequently, this position was held by Lt Gens Just Pavel Fillippovich Gavrilov, Vladimir Ivanovich Nosov, Afanasey Petrovich Vavilov and Yegeniy Ivanovich Varskoy.

From 1957 through 1986, the Military Procuracy bodies were headed by the prominent Soviet lawyer and active participant in the Great Patriotic War, Col Gen Just Artem Grigoryevich Gornyy who trained and entire galaxy of military lawyers who presently hold leading positions in the Military Procuracy bodies.

Due to the constant concern of our party and its Central Committee, the Military Procuracy bodies in all stages of their development were formed in terms of organization and establishment of the Armed Forces and were manned with politically mature, skilled personnel dedicated to the motherland; procuracy supervision over legality in the Army was given a correct political orientation.

The military procurators had good opportunities for providing procuracy supervision which was actually independent of local influences. The work of strengthening legality and military law and order was carried out in

cooperation with the command, the political bodies, the party and Komsomol organizations in relying on the masses of servicemen considering the practical combat tasks being carried out by the troops.

It is wise recalling that even in April 1923, the RVSR announced in an order the circular of Military Procuracy of the Supreme Court which stated that only in close cooperation with the command could the military procuracy on legal questions become that authoritative adviser to which the representatives of the military authorities would turn in difficult instances, that is: the work of the procuracy in the area of supervising the upholding of laws would be not only to stop infractions but also prevent them. Many years of practice have confirmed the high effectiveness of the principle of cooperation between the Military Procuracy and the command and political bodies. Subsequently this was reinforced in legislation in the 1966 Regulation Governing the Military Procuracy and was further developed in the 1981 Regulation.

The Great Patriotic War introduced substantial changes into the structure and nature of military procuracy activities. In particular it was also entrusted with the functions of territorial procuracy in individual areas where the combat situation necessitated this. Regardless of the significant increase in the amount of investigatory work, its quality and acuteness of the procuracy response to the causes of verified infractions remained high while efficiency was exceptional. Suffice it to say that a predominant majority of the crimes was investigated in the procuracies of the divisions, corps and armies within a period of 3-5 days and this had a great deterrent effect. General supervisory work by the military procurators during the war years was turned into one of the major factors for supporting the needs of the front and the combat activities of the operational army. The military procurators took an active part in unmasking and bringing to criminal justice spies, saboteurs, betrayers of the motherland and such infamous traitors of the people and avowed enemies of Soviet power as Vlasov, Krasnov, Shkuro, Semenov and others.

We should particularly point out that the military procuracies provided active aid to the Extraordinary State Commission for Establishing and Investigating Crimes by the Nazi Invaders and which was set up in 1942 upon the proposal of the Main Military Procuracy.

The military procurators of the fronts, fleets and districts proved to be good organizers, true patriots and fighters loyal to the cause of the party and the people. These included Maj Gens Just V. Alekseyev who was awarded two Orders of Lenin, four Red Banners, two Orders of the Patriotic War, Kutuzov, Bogdan Khmel'nitskiy, as well as P. Ankudinov, V. Izrailyan, I. Krasnikov, L. Yachenin, D. Potemkin, K. Mukhomorov and many others.

The motherland had high regard for the military service of the military procurators and investigators. Many of them were awarded orders and medals for combat contributions and personal valor.

One of the most important tasks which the party and the Soviet people are presently carrying out in fulfilling the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, is a further strengthening of discipline, organization and order in all areas of our life and in all sections of communist construction. This is all the more applicable for the Armed Forces where the carrying out of the present-day tasks involving the maintaining of high troop combat readiness is inconceivable without the greatest organization and discipline.

At present, the restructuring is shifting into the area of concrete practical deeds. Its core is the changes in the economic, the crucial sphere of human activity.

The CPSU Central Committee, as an overall concept of restructuring has been worked out, has drawn a simple conclusion: restructuring, democracy and legality are inseparable. "In line with this," emphasized M.S. Gorbachev at the June (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. "the tasks of procurator supervision grow immeasurably over the observance of laws by all organizations and officials."

The CPSU Central Committee has set the task of not merely improving but fundamentally restructuring the work of the law protection bodies.

The tasks of procuracy supervision at the present stage have been clearly set out in the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee of 4 June 1987 "On Measures to Increase the Role of Procuracy Supervision in Strengthening Legality, Law and Order" and have been concretized in the orders of the USSR General Procurator.

An increased level of overall supervision is a political question and the main task of the Military Procuracy bodies under present conditions is to shift the center of gravity to supervising the execution of the laws by the military headquarters bodies and by all officials in maintaining military discipline, law and order and preventing infractions.

The phenomena of stagnation evident in the 1970s and 1980s and involving the replacing of specific organizational work by assurances and promises, unfortunately, also penetrating the Army and Navy, have been sufficiently viable and this requires that the military procurators, in carrying out the functions of superior supervision, combine their professional knowledge with civil courage, principledness and justness. In accord with the demands of the order of the USSR General Procurator, the main emphasis in organizing the work of the staff of the Main Military Procuracy and the inferior procuracies

is to be put on vital leadership, improving supervision and verification of execution, increased exactingness on all levels and the providing of concrete help.

A major contribution to the question of restructuring is being made by the experienced military procurators Maj Gens Just V. Kononov, A. Frolov, V. Gurnovich and A. Perepelitsa.

The younger procurators such as Maj Gen Just I. Subochev, Cols Just A. Glyukov, V. Ivanov, V. Makarchenko, V. Solovyev and others have developed into strong leaders and are keeping step with the times.

Many generals and officers of the military procuracies are true masters of their job and among these around 50 are honored lawyers of the Republic and more than 20 persons have been awarded the chest insignia "Honored Procuracy Worker."

The military procuracy bodies are confronted with major and responsible tasks in carrying out the extended program of actions to eradicate violations of the law in the USSR Armed Forces.

The serious shortcomings in the activities of the procuracy, as pointed out in the designated decree of the CPSU Central Committee, are also characteristic of the military procuracy. In self-critically assessing our work, we should recognize that we have been unable to fully carry out the duties of exercising superior supervision over the fulfillment of the laws and troops regulations in the USSR Armed Forces.

The overcoming of this negative influence is still hindered by the nihilistic attitude which became established in the 1960s through the 1980s on the part of numerous procurators toward the creative role and preventive possibilities of general supervision, and this was not viewed as a most important task in the practical activities of the procurators to strengthen the fight against infractions which negatively influenced the state of military discipline, law and order. This was also aided by the circumstance that the procuracy workers were indoctrinated in a situation of growing negative phenomena like it or not and they endeavored to be given good recommendations, to stand out and be noticed but here they fell into the trap of formalism and an infatuation with safe statistics.

In the aim of eliminating such a situation by the working personnel of the military procuracies, in accord with the requirements of the Order of the USSR General Procurator of 1 October 1987, No 70 "On Measures to Fundamentally Restructure Work in the Recruitment, Placement, Professional Training and Indoctrination of Procuracy Body Personnel," active measures are being taken to eradicate the obsolete trends, to modernize the

style, forms and methods of work and decisively eradicate inertia, formalism and elements of bureaucracy which have prevented us from previously getting rid of sham work, a lack of system and disorder.

In considering that previously the planning of the work was carried out, as a rule, only from the top down, without considering the initiative of the inferior procuracies, this system is being revised. There is to be a decline in the flow of paperwork but the question has not been completely settled. There are examples of the showing of reasonable initiative. For example, the military procuracy of the Siberian Military District, having altered the traditional form, has begun planning work from below. The procuracies subordinate to it have thoroughly analyzed the state of legality in the served units, themselves set measures on the most urgent problems and this underlay the plan of the district procuracy.

In the work of general supervision, the focusing of attention on the use of elections, democracy, glasnost, and cooperation with the command, political bodies, the Army and Navy community is of substantial, if not crucial, importance. This means that attention and efforts of the military procurators must be focused on the sore points, that is, on solving those problems which are actually caused by necessity.

Effective supervision over the execution of the laws protecting the combat readiness of the USSR Armed Forces must be put in first place in general supervisory work. It has long been an axiom that high combat readiness is inconceivable without the strictest discipline and without the precise observance of the Soviet laws and military regulations by the personnel, particularly in standing alert duty, guard (watch) and border duties. The procedure for standing them is an important component in military law and order. The violating of this is a heightened social danger. Officers Karpets and Chernykh were held criminally liable and condemned the military tribunal to long terms of imprisonment for violating the rules of standing alert duty and for the failure to take all of the necessary measures to stop the flight of the Cessna aircraft piloted by the West German citizen Rust.

An analysis and discussion at a session of the Board of the Main Military Procuracy of the state of supervision over the fulfillment of the standards of the general troop regulations have shown that there have been more than isolated instances of the failure to carry out the requirement of the regulations in preventing infractions by individual commanders and investigatory bodies. These infractions are not always disclosed and eliminated by the officials of superior staffs. For this reason the military procurators must strengthen professional contacts with the command, the political bodies, the chiefs of the garrisons and military commandants, they must rely more widely on the Army and Navy community and broaden the publicizing of procurator supervision.

The USSR General Procurator A. Rekunkov has set the task of the procurators and investigators, including the military ones, of studying the economy and having a good understanding of the legal mechanism of the economic reform. For this reason along with other laws, the military procurators are supervising the fulfillment of the USSR Law "Governing the State Enterprise (Association)." The procurators must assist in every possible way in ensuring firm legal conditions in the restructuring of the economic mechanism in introducing the principles cost accounting, self-financing and the covering of costs, proceeding from the general legal principle: "All that is not prohibited by the law is permitted." If the measures taken by the command and other military headquarters bodies in the area of strengthening military and labor discipline in the economic sphere are not prohibited and they do not encroach on the principle of one-man command and the combat readiness of the troops and naval forces, then such actions must be recognized as valid. In the interests of increasing and ensuring competence in the execution of superior supervision by the military procurators, recently they have begun calling in the appropriate specialists and workers from the control and auditing staffs to participate in the inspections made. This provides an opportunity to more effectively bring out the deep negative processes, to influence their causes and conditions and to propose to the command specific measures to eliminate them.

The military procurators must also revise the currently existing approach to eliminating discovered infractions of the laws and regulations as well as the reasons giving rise to them. A comprehensive approach is not always provided on this important question which largely characterizes our work. A tolerant attitude on the part of certain military procurators has become widespread in relation to the formal announcements by officials that the violations disclosed by the procuracy had been eliminated. Here at times effective measures to eliminate the infractions are not being taken and the military procurators do not participate in all the essential instances in the review of the documents of procuracy response by the command and many of these travel through the "backdoor" channels. Repeat and inspection checks are planned and conducted rarely.

Many district newspapers run the heading "In the District Military Procuracies." Whenever possible the mass information and propaganda media must be employed more actively, and the press must explain the Soviet laws, the general troop regulation and the legal standards aimed at strengthening one-man command and indoctrinating an activist position in life among the servicemen.

For further increasing the combat readiness of the USSR Armed Forces the 70th anniversary of which we are now celebrating and for strengthening discipline, law and order in them, the general supervisory activities of the military procuracies in the designated areas are prevailing. However, in the daily work a number of other questions arise requiring a preferential treatment.

It is essential to reorganize the work of the supervising the observance of labor legislation and safety rules particularly in the military construction units.

Considering the ecological situation in each garrison, the legally provided means should be consistently and steadily employed in protecting nature and rationally utilizing its resources. In combatting infractions of the environmental legislation, legal measures and economic sanctions must be more widely applied against officials, servicemen and other citizens who show a neglectful predatory attitude toward the land, its underground riches, lakes and rivers, flora and fauna and who pollute the atmosphere.

Measures are being taken to instill proper order in reviewing letters, complaints and statements from servicemen, members of their families and other citizens and to create a situation which excludes bias, passivity and indifference. Each instance of the violating of rights and persecution for criticism, a bureaucratic and indifferent attitude toward others should be sharply and objectively assessed. The most serious alerts must be checked by an on-the-spot visit. On the basis of a profound analysis of the handling of letters by areas of procuracy review, specific measures must be worked out and implemented aimed at the correct and prompt review of them by the appropriate commanders and superiors on the spot and the taking of measures by them to restore the violated rights in order to avoid repeat petitions, including to superior bodies.

In light of the demands of the USSR General Procurator on a fundamental restructuring and further improvement in the involvement of procuracy bodies in the propagandizing of Soviet laws, unflagging attention is to be paid to the legal indoctrination of the servicemen.

Soviet military legislation serves as a means for protecting the combat capability of the USSR Armed Forces, military discipline, the established order for military service, the rights and legitimate interests of the servicemen. For precisely this reason a firm knowledge of the principles of military legislation by them, particularly the leaders and their close following of the law are an essential condition for successfully carrying out functional duties and for achieving high indicators in strengthening military discipline, in the training and indoctrination of subordinates.

In the military procuracies of the Moscow Air Defense District, the Volga and Belorussian Military Districts, it has become a well established practice of holding colloquiums by the procuracy employees on the principles of military legislation for officers appointed to independent posts. The military procuracies of the Moscow, Siberian and Far Eastern Military Districts have provided active aid in preparing and publishing procedural aids on legal work for the commanders.

It is impossible to count on success in the restructuring of procuracy supervision if we do not achieve a true improvement in the style and methods of work primarily on the part of the inferior military procuracies which bear the basic burden in carrying out the current tasks.

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Dependable Guard for Peace, Socialism

18010354j Tashkent PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN in Russian
No 2, Feb 88 pp 30-34

[Article, published under the heading "Toward the 70th Anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces," by Col Gen N. Popov, commander of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "A Dependable Guard for Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] On 23 February, the Soviet people are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy as a major national holiday.

The entire heroic history of the Soviet Armed Forces is inseparably linked to the history of the world's first socialist state which recently celebrated its 70th jubilee.

"Seven decades," pointed out the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, in a report at the ceremony dedicated to the 70th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, "is a very small segment of time in the centuries-long ascent of world civilization but in terms of the scale of accomplishments, history still has not known such a period which the nation went through after the victory of Great October."

As V.I. Lenin foresaw, from the very first days of the formation of the Soviet state, the workers and peasant in fierce military engagements were forced to defend the freedom and independence of their fatherland against numerous enemies.

The world bourgeoisie could not accept the birth of the new system, considering this an "anomaly" in history, its "mistake" and "accident." All of this was persuasive confirmation of the validity of Lenin's conclusion that "any revolution is only worth something when it can defend itself."

Under the leadership of V.I. Lenin, the Communist Party for the first time in history created a new socialist type of army. Its organization and combat activities were based upon Lenin's ideas and principles of the organizational development of a proletarian state's armed forces. This army was created from the people, its was closely linked to them and was designed to defend the fundamental interests of the workers and protecting the socialist motherland.

The party headed enormous work in the constituting and training of the the formations and units and the headquarters bodies and sent its best cadres of the organizers of military political work into the army.

Thus, for organizing the fight against the internal and external counterrevolution during this period just in the troops of the Turkestan Front there were such prominent party and military figures as M.V. Frunze, V.V. Kuybyshev, S.I. Gusev, Ya.E. Rudzutak, Sh.Z. Eliava, G.I. Boki and many others.

Under their leadership the communists organized and united the troop ranks, they formed and trained man for armed combat.

In the flames of the 3-year bloody fighting the young worker-peasant army defeated large detachments of domestic counterrevolution and imperialist interventionists and defended the victories of Great October.

"The flaming sword of Civil War," commented M.S. Gorbachev, "passed throughout the entire nation, through each family, it overturned the customary way of life, the psychology and fate of the people." The will of the people and the desire of millions for a new life were victorious in this lethal engagement. After the victorious end of the Civil War and the defeat of the main forces of imperialist interventionists, the Soviet people set to peaceful labor.

But the imperialists were hatching evil plans for a new invasion of the Soviet Union. For this reason, the Communist Party and the Soviet people did not lessen their vigilance, giving constant attention to the questions of national defense. A military reform was carried out which encompassed all aspects of Army and Navy life. The Armed Forces of the Soviet nation became stronger and more battleworthy. In 1927, there were over 90,000 communists in their ranks.

The party never forgot Lenin's admonishment: "Without an army, without very serious economic preparations to wage a modern war against advanced imperialism... this is an impossible thing."

The nation's industrialization made the Soviet state a mighty industrial power. Collectivization in the countryside was a profound change in the entire way of life of the rural worker. The cultural revolution, having put an end to illiteracy, helped to form a progressive, Soviet intelligentsia.

A most important victory of socialism was the solution of the nationality question. The formation of the USSR and the voluntary joining of free, equal Soviet socialist republics into a unitary state opened up great prospects for our motherland's socioeconomic development and greatly increased the capabilities of its defense against imperialist aggressors.

The danger of aggression was growing particularly by the end of the 1930s, when the bloc of fascist states led by Hitler Germany overtly set out on a path of military plunder having proclaimed as its goal the destruction of socialism.

The Communist Party and the Soviet government foresaw the possibility and inevitability of Nazi aggression and they correctly determined the probable directions in the development of world events. In accord with this, planned and complete preparations of the nation and the people for defense and for protecting the socialist fatherland were carried out. This was dictated by the harsh reality of those years when the reactionary bourgeoisie, blinded by class hate for socialism, assigned to Naziism the mission of the main shock force in an anticommunist crusade. The USSR had done a great deal to establish a system of collective security and prevent worldwide slaughter. But the Soviet initiatives were not responded to by the Western politicians and political leaders who cold-bloodedly were figuring that it would be handier to draw socialism into the flames of war and set it head-to-head against Naziism.

On the basis of the socialist economy, the domestic defense industry had been established and was gaining strength. Just during the years of the Second Five-Year Plan, its gross product almost tripled. The aviation industry, tank building and shipbuilding developed rapidly. This made it possible to carry out the technical rearming of the Army and Navy. From mid 1939, the Soviet Armed Forces commenced deployment and reorganization. By June 1941, their size was 5,373,000 men, including 4,553,000 in the Ground Troops and air defense units, 476,000 in the Air Forces and 344,000 in the Navy.

Party political work in the Army and Navy was also improved. The combat and political training of the personnel and the entire way of life of the Soviet military were reorganized in accord with the demand: Teach the troops which is essential in a war. This made it possible to increase significantly the might of the Worker-Peasant Red Army and Red Navy.

However, due to the shortage of time, it was impossible to fully carry out the planned defensive measures.

For the Soviet people and their Armed Forces, the Great Patriotic War was a severe testing. The aggression imposed on us was a merciless examination of the viability of the socialist system, of the strength of the multinational Soviet state and of the force of the patriotic spirit of the Soviet people.

The entire Soviet people rose in a single rush to defend the socialist motherland. The war was patriotic and of all the people. Intense, truly heroic labor was carried out in

the nation's rear and here the motto was "Everything for the front, everything for victory!" Combat reserves were forged and military training developed among the workers.

In the single fraternal family of equal peoples of the Soviet Union, Central Asia and Kazakhstan—previously a backward borderland of Russia—during the years of socialist construction had been turned into a dynamically developing industrial-agrarian area. Here a strong industrial potential was created and this was based upon 1,445 large and medium-sized industrial enterprises. Electric power, nonferrous metallurgy, the coal and chemical sectors of industry were developing rapidly. Agriculture was being mechanized and had been diversified. In 1940, Uzbekistan harvested 1,416,000 tons of cotton. Republic industrial production rose by 12 fold in comparison with 1924, electric power generation had risen by 39 fold and oil production by 20 fold.

The converting of the economy of the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan to a wartime footing and its mobilization for supplying the front were carried out in three main areas. In the first place, the existing production potential and agriculture of the region were switched to producing defense products and supplying the Red Army with food. Secondly, these republics became the evacuation area for 308 large industrial enterprises from the frontline oblasts. Moreover, an evacuation population of 1.5 million was moved and supported as much as possible give the wartime conditions. Thirdly, in all the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan, new enterprises were built rapidly and new production capacity put into operation. In essence, in this region during the period of the Great Patriotic War such important industrial sectors as ferrous metallurgy, the oil refining industry, machine tool building and agricultural machine building were established from scratch. "The Patriotic War confronted the Bolsheviks of Uzbekistan," said U. Yusupov who headed the republic party organization in those years, "with new and immediate demands. We subordinated all our work to the interests of the front and to the tasks of defeating the enemy. Heading the patriotic upsurge of the people, the Uzbekistan party organization set a decisive course of surmounting the wartime difficulties by mobilizing internal resources and by involving all the republic population in active, unstinting work to satisfy the needs of the front."

The outcome of the fighting against the enemy was determined on the battlefields. For this reason the chief part in the program of activities of the Communist Party and the Soviet state was the carrying out of military organizational tasks aimed at the greatest possible strengthening of the Soviet Armed Forces' combat might.

The party Central Committee together with the local party, soviet bodies and military commissariats initiated extensive mobilization work. By the start of July 1941,

some 5.3 million citizens had been called up into the ranks of the Armed Forces. Thousands of people volunteered for the Red Army. By the end of 1941, the nation had organized 286 rifle divisions, 159 rifle brigades and 76 tank brigades. This made it possible to quickly deploy the Army and Navy, to increase significantly their combat capabilities and ultimately to thwart the enemy's plans.

The main event in the first year of the war was the great Battle of Moscow where in the winter of 1941 the Red Army routed a more than million-strong Nazi troop grouping. For the first time in the course of World War II, the propaganda myth of the invincibility of the Nazi troops was debunked. The doctrine of the Nazi military-political leadership of a "lightning war" had collapsed completely.

The victory at Moscow marked the beginning to a fundamental change in the course of the Great Patriotic War. The entire world was convinced of the strength of the Soviet state, the high combat capability of its army and the moral and political solidarity of the Soviet people. At the Moscow Dubosekovo siding, the words of the Turkestan soldier V. Klochkov rang like a vow: "Russia is great but there is nowhere to retreat as Moscow is behind us!" The wholehearted love for Moscow predetermined the nation-wide nature of its defense.

Fighting in the Battle of Moscow were the 21st and 44th cavalry divisions constituted in Uzbekistan. Many Uzbekistanis were among the men of the 8th Guards Panfilov Division. Examples of heroism and valor were shown by the Namangan A. Rakhimov who was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, by officers K. Karimov and A. Mirzayev, the journalist N. Abdullayev, the glorious daughter of the Uzbek people Zebo Ganiyeva and many others.

The defeat of the Nazi troops in the Battle of Stalingrad altered the course of hostilities not only on the Soviet-German Front but throughout the world. In this battle the Wehrmacht lost around 1.5 million soldiers and officers, that is, one-quarter of the men on the front. The Battle of Stalingrad once and for all buried Hitler's plans to win world domination.

One of the vivid pages in the heroic history of the war was the Battle of the Kursk Salient. Over the 50 days of this unprecedented engagement, the Nazis released around 500,000 shells and bombs against our troops. This was 1.5 fold more than the enemy expended in the battles of Moscow and Stalingrad. But the Soviet troops held out and went over to the counteroffensive. The sons and daughters of all our nation's peoples here committed an immortal feat which will live through the ages. When the combat situation required, they rammed the enemy tanks and aircraft, and with their bodies blocked the fire-breathing embrasures of the Nazi pillboxes. Kh.I.

Kinzhayev, Z.U. Khusanov, V.S. Shalandin and many other Turkestan soldiers were among the Heroes of the Soviet Union who committed their feats on the Kursk Salient.

The victory of the Soviet troops on the Kursk Salient in the summer of 1943 checked the last attempts by the Nazi Command to alter the strategic situation in its favor. The Nazi Army was confronted with a disaster. The Kursk Battle and the Battle for the Dnieper brought about a fundamental change in the course of the Great Patriotic War and World War II.

A general offensive by the Red Army got under way in the aim of completely defeating the aggressor. On 8 May 1945, Nazi Germany surrendered unconditionally. After the defeat of the Kwantung Army on 2 September 1945, militaristic Japan laid down its arms and recognized it was defeated.

The Soviet Armed Forces, having defended the independence of their socialist fatherland, rescued the peoples of Europe and Asia from enslavement. The Soviet people and their military carried out a great patriotic and international feat.

The Communist Party was the organizer and inspirer of the victory. As the leading party, the CPSU focused its main efforts on the front. Over the war years some 1,640,000 communists were mobilized into the Armed Forces. By the beginning of 1945, there were around 3,325,000 communists in the Army and Navy and this was almost 60 percent of the total party membership.

The friendship of the Soviet peoples and the military solidarity of the fraternal peoples became one of the sources of the victory over Nazi Germany. For the first time in history the multinational make-up of the nation was turned from a source of its weakness into a source of strength.

The Soviet Union emerged from the war politically stronger and its international authority had risen unprecedentedly. The Soviet people under party leadership set to rebuilding the economy and restoring their life.

It took the USSR just 3 years to reach the prewar level of industrial production and 5 years in agriculture. In historically short times our country reached leading positions in the world. Confronted with the aggressive policy of the imperialist states, the combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces was maintained on a proper level. Within a short period of time, the Army and Navy received nuclear weapons. The atomic monopoly of the United States had been broken. The Ground Troops, Air Forces and Navy were outfitted with modern equipment and weapons.

The successes of the Soviet economy, science and technology were the basis for the development of the Rocket Troops, the nuclear submarine fleet and strategic aviation. Conventional weapons also were developed. The organization and establishment as well as the training and indoctrination practices of the troops were improved.

The current 70th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy is being celebrated in a situation of a major change in all spheres of social life. The restructuring in the nation is gaining strength and its ideas are more and more being transformed into concrete deeds and embodied in life. The democratization of all the nation's social life is the soul of the restructuring and its guarantor. Radical economic reform is being carried out.

In foreign policy the Soviet Union is firmly following a policy of peace and international security, having advanced the concept of new political thinking as the basis in international affairs. "New thinking with its common human criteria and orientation toward reason and frankness," emphasized Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, "has begun to make headway in world affairs, destroying the stereotypes of anti-Sovietism and suspicion for our initiatives and action."

The signing of the Treaty to Eliminate Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles between the USSR and the United States was a real embodiment of such an approach.

The promulgation of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact states was a manifestation of the good will of the USSR and its allies. This doctrine has a clearly expressed defensive nature and in it one can also clearly see the new political thinking which is guiding the USSR and the other socialist commonwealth countries in international affairs.

"The defensive military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact," pointed out the USSR Minister of Defense, Army Gen D.T. Yazov, "designed exclusively to repel military threat in no way means that our actions will be of a passive sort. They will be based upon inexorable foundation of Lenin's teachings about the defense of the socialist fatherland.

"In the event of aggression, our Armed Forces together with the fraternal socialist countries will defend the socialist victories with all determination. The security of our country and the socialist commonwealth as a whole is a sacred thing for us."

The restructuring which has also included the Armed Forces will help reach even higher troop and naval readiness to repel any aggression, from wherever it derives.

Marching in step with the armed defenders of the motherland are the troops of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District which was established on 4 May 1918 upon personal instructions of V.I. Lenin and which is a dependable outpost of the fatherland's southern frontiers. The district has inscribed many glorious, vivid pages in the heroic history of the Soviet Army. During the years of the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars, the Turkestan soldiers demonstrated examples of steadfastness and loyalty to the cause of October.

The readiness of the men of the current generation to worthily continue the combat traditions of the frontline heroes is clearly manifested in their daily military routine. At present the district troops are honorably carrying out the responsible tasks set by the party and by the government.

This year when the entire nation is preparing for the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference, a socialist competition has developed widely among the Turkestan soldiers under the motto: "Wholehearted military service, exemplary service and highest discipline—our contribution to the cause of defending the motherland!"

It has become our good tradition and unswerving rule to train the troops in a situation as close as possible to actual combat and to effectively carry out combat training tasks under the difficult conditions of a mountain desert terrain.

In carrying out the difficult tasks confronting the district troops, we feel the constant attention and practical aid from the Central Committee of the Uzbekistan Communist Party and from the republic government, the local party and soviet bodies. A major role is played by the growing ties

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Loyalty to Military Duty

18010354i Moscow *MOLODOY KOMMUNIST* in Russian No 2, Feb 88 pp 15-18

[Article, published under the heading "Shield of the Fatherland," by Army Gen P.G. Lushev, USSR first deputy minister of defense: "Loyalty to Military Duty"]

[Text] Still quite recently all progressively thinking people in the world celebrated the glorious jubilee, the 70th anniversary of Great October, and at present our valorous Armed Forces have reached the same age. These two dates stand side by side with good reason. The first thing that the young Soviet Republic which was surrounded by imperialists states needed was a dependable defense. On 15 (28) January 1918, Vladimir Ilich Lenin signed the historic Decree of the Council of People's Commissars on Organizing the Red Army and 29 January (11 February) the Decree Establishing the Worker-Peasant Red Navy.

On the basis of these decrees, a truly revolutionary Army and Navy were established. The combat path which they followed was the path of harsh testing, steadfastness and mass heroism. Their entire combat chronicle persuades us that the world has never known soldiers who fought the enemy with such valor, who so loved their motherland and were so selfless in carrying out patriotic and international duty as did the Soviet soldiers.

Over the 70 years, major changes have come about in our Armed Forces. Mighty and complex combat equipment and weapons have appeared, the combat skill level of the personnel has increased significantly and the nature of military service has become different. However, their great purpose of vigilantly guarding the victories of Great October remains unchanged. Let us reflect on the following fact. For more than 40 years now, our country has lived in peace. For over 40 years all the European peoples have done the same, although in these years storm clouds repeatedly over Europe. What, one might ask, restrains the imperialists from unleashing a new war and carrying out their perfidious plans? Here there is just one reply and that is that it is restrained by our political determination and readiness to rebuff any aggressive actions against the Soviet state and its allies. This shows all the greatness of the social role of the Soviet Armed Forces which are charged with ensuring man's sacred right to life, peace and freedom. The main source of their strength and invincibility which was, is and will remain forever, is the whole-hearted dedication of the Soviet military to the ideals of communism and a conviction of the rightness and victory of a just cause. At present all sorts of fabrications by our enemies are being unleashed about this and they have endeavored to assert that supposedly the feats of the Soviet people were committed out of duty or almost compulsion. But what is the obligation to block the embrasure of an enemy pillbox as was done by Aleksandr Matrosov and hundreds of similar heroes? The military regulations did not command Viktor Talalikhin to make a ram when ammunition ran out on his aircraft, but he and many other pilots did this. The Black Sea Fleet sailor Nikolay Filchenko and his combat friends threw themselves under enemy tanks, blocking off Sevastopol. This was 45 years ago, but these traits are still inherent to the present generation's men. Two years ago Aleksandr Koryavin shielded his commander with his chest....

The men of the 1980s remain loyal to the traditions of the older generations. Recently at a meeting of the participants of the Komsomol action "Keep the Pace Revolutionary!" the First Secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, V. Moronenko, on behalf of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, presented the Gold Star of a hero to a young worker from the Skorokhod firm, Yuriy Shikov. The highest award of the motherland was given to him for military service. And there are numerous such examples. For feats and heroism shown in carrying out international duty in Afghanistan, 49 servicemen were awarded the high title of Hero of the Soviet Union and many were presented with battle

orders and medals. The personnel of the units involved in eliminating the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant acted decisively, skillfully and unstintingly. The communists were in the front ranks as was the case during the years of harsh testing. Among them are numerous young soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers and officers. In the units of the limited Soviet troop contingent in Afghanistan, the period of candidate status for joining the party has been cut in half, for example. At present our communists exist not in each company as we were recently so proud of, but also in each platoon.

Loyalty to the motherland and to military duty is apparent, certainly, not only in a vivid feat or a bold action, when the high moral qualities acquired by a person are disclosed in a particularly visible and impressive manner. It is also noticeable in the daily and prosaic service which at the same time is very essential for society and in the steadfast surmounting of the hardships and deprivations of military service. This is to be found in the desire to work creatively and achieve more in improving combat skill, in increasing the quality of studies and in strengthening organization and discipline. This is also confirmed by the fact that many troop collectives are honorably carrying out the high socialist obligations which were assumed in honor of the Great October jubilee. We have units and subunits which year after year confirm the title of outstanding. Many officers, including young ones, have been awarded orders and medals for the successful mastery of modern combat equipment and weapons and for high indicators in the training and indoctrination of subordinates.

A persistent interest in military service is developed in the men by all forms of training and indoctrination in the units and subunits and on the ships and in the military schools. For this the commanders and political workers, the party and Komsomol organizations are focusing their energy on successfully mastering the complex combat equipment, computers and radioelectronic devices. Everything necessary is being done to constantly increase the political vigilance of the men, to decisively eradicate pacifist attitudes and indoctrinate immunity to bourgeois ideology. This provides an opportunity to involve each man in resolving the most complicated questions of Army and Navy life and for each to feel responsibility for the question of national defense. And to a certain degree, this allows making the Army and Navy into a school of self-affirmation and self-expression of the youth, and the years in army service into a time of boldness, maturing as well as of political, moral and physical conditioning.

We are meeting the 70th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces in a situation of an abrupt turning point in the development of Soviet society commenced and carried out under the leadership of the Communist Party. The course of the April (1985) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the 27th Party Congress of restructuring all spheres of life in the nation is picking up

its pace. The nation is carrying out wide-scale reconstruction of the national economy and a radical reform in its management. Much is being done to accelerate scientific and technical progress and ensure the more rapid development of machine building. The state of affairs in metallurgy, the coal and gas industry and transportation has improved, and there have been positive shifts in the nation's agroindustrial complex. The social return from the economy is growing. All of this, of course, helps to strengthen the material bases for the defense capability of the Soviet state.

We do not require Armed Forces for capturing the territories of others. Under conditions when the very existence of mankind is threatened, we are well aware that the clash between capitalism and socialism should be carried out exclusively in the forms of peaceful competition. The drive for military superiority will bring no one a political gain today. Security, having in mind the relations between the USSR and United States, can only be reciprocal, and if one takes international relations as a whole, only universal. Proceeding from this and showing new political thinking, the 27th Party Congress raised the idea of establishing an all-encompassing international security system and formulated its fundamental principles. For precisely this reason, the Soviet Union has made an entire series of major initiatives supported by the socialist commonwealth countries and aimed at a radical improvement in international relations. These include a program for getting rid of nuclear and chemical weapons in the world by the year 2000. The agreement reached between the USSR and the United States on eliminating two classes of nuclear weapons—the medium- and shorter-range missiles—immediately was a political event of world importance. The signing and implementing of the Soviet-American treaty on this extremely important question marks a major breakthrough in establishing a universal security system and creates a good basis for further steps in reducing the weapon levels.

At the same time we must not forget something else. At this very same time the Star Wars program is being accelerated and this is primarily a plan for creating an "antimissile shield" over U.S. territory. The essence of such an idea is far from a defensive nature, as the American administration has endeavored in every possible way to prove. The plan is to ensure invulnerability and impunity for oneself and then launch the first strike from under the shield."

These are the real conditions under which the Armed Forces are carrying out the tasks assigned to them. In being guided by the principles of military doctrine and by its strictly defensive nature, they together with the Warsaw Pact armies have been forced to maintain their combat readiness in a state and on a level which would make it possible for them to rebuff any outside attack.

At present the units and ships have the most advanced combat equipment. The party considers that the United States and the NATO countries at present are emphasizing the qualitative aspect, that is, increasing the accuracy

of the combat and technical indicators of the weapons and combat equipment. For this reason the party is taking all the essential measures so that the Armed Forces are on a level sufficient for defense. The accelerating of the nation's socioeconomic development creates growing opportunities for carrying out this task.

The situation of military strategic parity achieved in the mid 1970s and being an historic victory for socialism poses the question for us: how can we provide a high degree of Army and Navy readiness to rebuff aggression if it is unleashed against the USSR and its allies? This is a very important question. The answer to it stems from an analysis of two key military-sociological categories: the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces and the human factor of combat readiness.

In the structure of combat potential one can clearly see the military-technical, military professional and spiritual aspects. Its components are directly linked to the activity of the servicemen, to the military skill of the personnel which reflects the high level of military knowledge, abilities and skills, the ideological steadfastness, patriotism and internationalism of the men, their organization and discipline. When we talk about the military strategic equilibrium with the forces of imperialism, this in no way presupposes such a parity in the moral-political sense.

The improving of military skill and the greatest possible rise in the spiritual forces of the personnel, as the development of the two main components of the human factor in the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces, are the basis for our historical optimism.

At present the Army and Navy are manned with remarkable personnel. Almost 96 percent of the servicemen in regular service have a higher and secondary education and the remainder have at least eighth grade. The high level of knowledge and the technical skill make it possible for the soldiers and sailors in a short period of time to master the modern equipment and weapons and acquire the qualities of able defenders of the motherland. All the commanders of formations, over 95 percent of the commanders of regiments, ships of the first and second rank, chiefs of political bodies and four-fifths of the regimental-level political workers are officers with a higher and specialized military education. Over 90 percent of the officers are members of the Leninist party and Komsomol. Such a make-up of the military personnel ensures the successful carrying out of the tasks of improving the personnel's combat skills.

The restructuring in the combat organism of the Army and Navy requires the working out of new approaches to work on the part of the personnel. Here individual areas are of a priority nature. These include first of all the

modernizing of the style and methods of troop leadership, improving the quality of combat and political training, a fundamental strengthening of military discipline, and the maintaining of proper relations in the subunit collectives.

Of crucial significance in the restructuring of the work done by command and political personnel on all levels is their greater responsibility for the state of affairs in the assigned area and for daily growth of the actual combat readiness indicators. The Candidate Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Minister of Defense, Army Gen D.T. Yazov, has drawn attention to the fact that the restructuring of the style and methods of activity still has not touched all military personnel. "It is essential," he said at a meeting of the party aktiv in the USSR Ministry of Defense, "to look the truth straight in the eye—some of us have lost the feeling of duty and responsibility for carrying out our duties and tasks."

The demands presently placed on the Armed Forces oblige the political bodies, the staffs and party organizations on a daily and thorough basis to analyze the real state of combat readiness in each unit, on each ship, in each formation and promptly disclose reasons for negative phenomena created by the period of stagnation. All the more as these negative phenomena can assume forms which threaten combat readiness. This was clearly demonstrated by the fact of the violating of Soviet airspace by a West German light plane on 28 May 1987. Such an unprecedented case from all viewpoints teaches all of us to increase vigilance and ensure a constant readiness to keep our powder dry.

Recent Army and Navy practice shows that the restructuring in the USSR Armed Forces is picking up its pace and is touching upon ever deeper strata in the life of the troop collectives. Of course, these are just the first steps and behind them should come more significant changes in the approaches to carrying out the tasks of combat readiness. Nevertheless even now on the eve of the 70th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces, with full justification we can say that an active search for reserves is under way in the leading troops collectives, previously untouched sources are being discovered for increasing the service activities of the personnel, and the initiative and creativity of the servicemen are being aroused in the aim of ensuring dependable defense for the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

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On Guard for Peace, Socialism

*18010354h Vilnius KOMMUNIST in Russian No 2,
Feb 88 pp 14-19*

[Article, published under the heading "On the 70th Anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy," by Col Gen Viktor Grishin, commander of the Red Banner Baltic Military District: "On Guards for Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] One of the most memorable dates close to the heart of each Soviet man is 23 February, the birthday of the USSR Armed Forces. On this day we pay a tribute of profound respect to the ardent fighters of the revolution and Civil War, to the frontline heroes and to all who with weapons in hand forged victory in the mortal engagements against the enemies of socialism.

For seven decades now the army of the world's first worker-peasant state has securely defended the victories of Great October, the 70th anniversary of which was recently celebrated by the Soviet people and by all progressive mankind.

The young Soviet Republic from the first days of its existence had to be defended against armed attack by the joint forces of the internal and international counterrevolution. In order to parry the thrust of the enemies and repel the aggressive encroachments by imperialism, it was essential to establish a new type of revolutionary army. Under the leadership of V.I. Lenin, the Communist Party nurtured a regular class army linked by inseparable ties to the people, possessing high political awareness and mastering all the methods and forms of armed combat.

The defense of the socialist fatherland was an inseparable part of building the new society, of the fight for socialism and communism, and a sacred duty for each Soviet citizen and each Soviet soldier. Quite understandably the glorious history of the USSR Armed Forces is inseparably linked to the heroic struggle of the Soviet people for liberty and independence.

The unbreakable union of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia, the moral and political unity of Soviet society, the friendship of the Soviet peoples, Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism—all of this was reflected in the principles of Soviet military organizational development as well as in the creation and development of the Armed Forces.

In following Lenin's teachings about the defense of the socialist fatherland and in creatively developing these, the Communist Party has paid constant attention to strengthening our state's defense might and the combat potential USSR Armed Forces. The ideas and instructions of V.I. Lenin on these questions were given profound reflection and development in the CPSU Program, in the decisions of the party congresses and in the USSR Constitution which for the first time included a

special chapter "Defense of the Socialist Fatherland." It clearly states that the defense of the socialist fatherland is among the most important functions of the state and is a concern of all the people.

The Soviet Army is a new type army. It has always defended a just cause, the revolutionary victories of the people and has whole-heartedly carried out its patriotic and international duty. The sources of its invincibility lie in the profound superiority of the socialist social and state system over the capitalist one, in the wise party leadership and in its Marxist-Leninist ideology.

The glorious fighting traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces came into being in the fight for the victory of October, during the period of the foreign intervention and Civil War. The events of February 1918 have not faded from our memory when thousands of workers and peasants joined the ranks of the defenders of the Soviet Republic. A truly people's army, an army of the new, socialist type was born in the flames of battle. The historic purpose of this army was that it, in the words of V.I. Lenin, "must defend the victories of the revolution, our people's power, the soviets of soldier, worker and peasant deputies, the entire new, truly democratic system against all the enemies of our people...." During the first years of Soviet power, the Red Army defeated the White Guard hordes of Kolchak, Denikin, Yudenich and Wrangel, the troops of landowner Poland, American, English, German, Japanese and other interventionists.

Flourishing on the fronts of the Civil War were the generalship gifts of M.V. Frunze, K.Ye. Voroshilov, S.M. Budenny, V.K. Blyukher, M.I. Tukhachevskiy, V.I. Chapayev, Ya.I. Alksnis, I.P. Uborevich and Ya.F. Fabritsius.

In 1919, the Commander of the 14th Army Iyeronim Uborevich was 23 years old. He was a thoroughly trained military leader and a true party fighter. Here is what I.F. Kupriyanov, a commissar of the 18th Division which was commanded by the 22-year-old Iyeronim Uborevich had to write: "In setting off for the units, he [Uborevich] consulted with me and the political section on what must be done in political work, he took with him fresh newspapers and reports, he told the soldiers about the course of the fighting on the adjacent axis and fronts. Already the commander of armies and districts, Iyeronim Petrovich was not loath to give reports to the Red Armymen, and to talk long with the rank-and-file and commanders; he always reminded the latter that political indoctrination of subordinates is their direct service duty and assigned a primary role to class indoctrination."

Uborevich's talent as an organizer and leader of troop training was fully developed in the Belorussian Military District which he assumed command of in 1931. Under his leadership many commanders matured and grew

stronger and who subsequently became prominent military leaders in the Great Patriotic War such as MSUs G.K. Zhukov, K.A. Meretskov, I.S. Konev, R.Ya. Malinovskiy, M.V. Zakharov, V.D. Sokolovskiy and others.

Having adopted the best traditions of the older generations of the motherland's defenders, the Soviet soldiers in fighting the enemy showed steadfastness, courage, valor and mass heroism. This was particularly apparent during the years of the Great Patriotic War when the Soviet people and their defenders repelled the invasion the Nazi hordes, the shock troops of world imperialism, endeavoring to destroy the socialist system, eradicate communist ideology and enslave the Soviet people.

During the first days of the Nazi invasion, the defenders of the naval base and town of Liyepaya covered themselves in undying glory. The city was not fortified but the courage of its garrison turned Liyepaya into a fortress. Over a period of several days, soldiers from the 67th Rifle Division under the command of Maj Gen D.A. Dedayev, the border troops, sailors from the the Twice Red Banner Baltic Fleet and detachments of Liyepaya workers headed by the first secretary of the party gorkom, Mikelis Buka, and the first secretary of the uyezd [county] Komsomol committee, Imant Sudmalis, courageously defended the city against superior enemy forces.

The entire nation knows the name of Komsomol member and partisan Marite Malenikayte who repeated the feat of Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya. Captured in fighting the Nazis, she endured inhuman torture but did not given the partisans away and remained loyal to the motherland to the end. In March 1944, she was posthumously awarded the high title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

The whole-hearted dedication of the Soviet people to the ideals of communism gave rise to the mass military and labor heroism and was the basis of the inner strength and invincibility of the Soviet Armed Forces. In the Battles of Moscow and Stalingrad, on the Kursk Salient and at the walls of Leningrad, in the Belorussian, Vistula-Oder and Berlin Offensive Operations, the Nazis fully felt the all-crushing might of our blows and these shook the Nazi state and its army to their foundation. The enemy which had raised the sword against our fatherland was overthrown. The Red Army carried out its international duty and liberated the peoples of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Austria and Norway from Nazi enslavement. It also brought freedom to the German people.

The unprecedented feats of the men of the Soviet Army and Navy will not fade over the ages, as they protected the motherland with their heart against the danger. More than 7 million persons were awarded orders and medals, and over 11,000 men were awarded the title of Hero of

the Soviet Union for courage and valor. Almost 11,000 combat orders decorate the colors of the formations and units. Our army truly became an army of mass heroism.

Inscribed in gold letters in the glorious chronicle of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces are the immortal feats of the 28 Panfilov heroes, Capt Nikolay Gastello, Guards Jr Sgt Yuriy Smirnov and Guards Pvt Aleksandr Matrosov who blocked the embrasure of an enemy pillbox with his body. The Baltic soldiers are proud of the fact that he, like many other heroes of the Soviet Union who have up their lives for the honor, freedom and independence of the motherland, have been entered in perpetuity on the rolls of our subunits.

The CPSU carried leadership over the armed struggle which led to the victory over the Nazi aggressors. By the end of the war, more than one-half of the party membership was in the operational army. One out of every four men was a communist. Over the war years the ranks of the CPSU were filled out with 5,319,000 new members.

This was a fighting party, the truly unifying and leading force of the Red Army. Thus, in the constituting of the 16th Lithuanian Rifle Division, over 300 leading party, soviet and Komsomol workers from Lithuania were appointed to positions as commanders and political workers. This included 11 members of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee and candidate Central Committee members (K. Preykshas, M. Shumayskas, F. Belyauskas, A. Kondratas, P. Oleka and others) and 19 secretaries of the uyezd and city party committees. Primary party and Komsomol organizations were active in all the units and subunits. On 1 July 1942, the division had 19 primary and 136 company and equivalent party organizations numbering 1,198 communists and party candidate members. They organized 18 primary Komsomol organization and 127 company and equivalent ones with a total membership of 1,504 Komsomol members.

The division's political bodies, party and Komsomol organizations widely initiated political indoctrination among the personnel. In fighting on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War against the Nazi invaders, the Lithuanian soldiers showed courage and heroism and invincible will for victory. A company from the 249th Rifle Regiment headed by the communist, Sr Lt V. Deksnis, in repelling fierce counterattacks by a numerically superior enemy in the area of the village of Nikitovka, firmly held the occupied line until the order to retreat came. The orderly Zosya Deninayte over a period of 2 days carried 62 wounded from the battlefield. She died rescuing a wounded soldier.

Our people and the Soviet military are greeting the 70th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces in a situation of a high political and labor upsurge brought about by the historic decisions of the 27th Party Congress, the January (1987) and subsequent Central Committee plenums

and by the fundamental ideas of restructuring and cadre policy set out in the speeches of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, M.S. Gorbachev.

The achievements of the Soviet people on the path of socialist construction over the 70 years since the victory of Great October are enormous and indisputable. Our revolutionary restructuring and acceleration have evoked rabid hostility and hate from the military imperialist circles which have tried to turn back the wheel of history. They are carrying out a policy of increasing the arms race, they are endeavoring to shift this into space and are continuing a policy of threats and intervention into the affairs of others, having incorporated virtually the entire world in the range of their strategic interests. In this difficult international situation, the Communist Party and the Soviet government, proceeding from a profound analysis of the realities of the modern world and our nuclear missile age, have worked out a new military doctrine which is of an exclusively defensive nature, having demonstrated to all mankind not in words but in deeds an example of the new thinking and a readiness to live in peace and friendship with all countries and peoples.

Persuasive proof of this is the signing of the treaty between the USSR and the United States to eliminate medium- and short-range missiles in Washington. This event was approved throughout the world.

As long as the military threat has not been completely eliminated, every measure is being taken to securely defend the motherland, the great victories of socialism and preserve peace throughout the world. Due to the concern of the party, the government and the entire people, the Soviet Armed Forces have everything required to rebuff decisively any aggressor. Over the postwar period there has been a fundamental change in the military equipment, the organization and establishment of the troops and in the control and support system, and as a result of this, their combat capabilities have greatly increased. Our army is equipped with modern combat vehicles, missile and radioelectronic systems, nuclear submarines, supersonic aircraft and fire support helicopters.... Shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal armies of the Warsaw Pact countries, the Soviet military is securely guarding the victories of socialism.

In the common formation with all the men of the USSR Armed Forces, the personnel from the Baltic District units and subunits are honorably and worthily carrying out their constitutional, patriotic and international duty. Last year the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers and officers, having taken an active part in the socialist competition under the motto "Decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress Will be Carried Out and by Unstinting Military Service We Will Celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Great October" have steadily improved combat readiness and military skill. High results in military service have been achieved by the personnel of the guards

order-bearing rifle regiment under the command of Lt Col V. Venger and on the rolls of this unit Heroes of the Soviet Union have been entered in perpetuity.

The motherland has had high praise for the military service of its defenders. We are proud of the fact that the troops collectives have been awarded challenge Red Banners of the communist party central committees, the presidiums of the supreme soviets and the republic councils of ministers of the Soviet Baltic for successes in military and political training. Many soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers and officers have received state awards. Among them are Col R. Shlyakonis, Lt Cols M. Ralis and R. Vizgirdas and others.

In carrying out the decisions of the 27th party congresses, the subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and orders and directives of the USSR Ministry of Defense and the chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, the district troops are continuing to improve combat readiness and military and political training. The commanders, the political bodies and staffs, the party organizations and all the personnel are making every effort to securely guard the northwestern frontiers of the fatherland. Planned and effective work is being carried out to restructure the style and methods of troop command and leadership of the training and indoctrination process, to strengthen discipline in every possible way, overall organization and prescribed order, to form and unite the multinational troop collectives as well as in the area of international indoctrination. We feel constant help and support in this from the party and soviet bodies of the Soviet Baltic republics and Kaliningrad Oblast.

The party's demand for closeness between commanders and subordinates is being carried out. The party organizations more and more are fostering democracy, glasnost, criticism and self-criticism, and an atmosphere is being created of concerned involvement by the communists in carrying out the tasks of restructuring. At the meetings a personal evaluation is being made for each party member and for his personal contribution to increasing the combat readiness of the troop collective. In other words, in the USSR Armed Forces including in the district troops, as throughout our entire nation, profound processes of modernization, acceleration, restructuring and democratization are occurring. And it cannot be otherwise. Certainly the army, in the apt expression of M.V. Frunze, is a carbon copy of its state.

The Baltic soldiers are greeting the 70th anniversary of USSR Armed Forces with unstinting military service. In the field exercises, the command-staff, tactical and special tactical exercises, in the course of firing and launches and the driving of combat vehicles, the men of all the combat arms and specialties are constantly improving their combat skill, their moral-psychological and physical conditioning, and are trying to use with maximum effectiveness the combat capabilities of the modern equipment and weapons.

Man plays the crucial role in a war. This truth has been and remains fixed. The future of our state and its armed forces, M.S. Gorbachev stressed, is largely determined by what sort of youth we are raising now. "Our youth is industrious, it is ready to carry out a feat and self-sacrifice and is dedicated to socialism. But it is also the duty of the senior generations to do everything so that the relief be even more able, more capable and more educated and so that it worthily carry in the future the baton of the ideals of justice and freedom won by Great October.

These words apply fully to the internationalist soldiers such as the mason from Kedaynyay, Sgt (Res) Raymundas Ramandauskas, to the construction worker from the Skemonis Kolkhoz in Anikshyaskiy Rayon, Pvt (Res) Kyastutis Magenis and many others who have served in the limited Soviet troop contingent in Afghanistan.

The ranks of the Armed Forces are receiving good recruits from Lithuania. The questions of improving the training of the youth for Army and Navy service are being resolved by the local party and soviet bodies and by the Komsomol in close contact with the command and the political directorate of the Red Banner Baltic Military District. In 1986-1987, the republic conducted more than 2,300 youth hikes to sites of revolutionary and combat glory. The first day of exercises for basic military training during the current year commenced with the holding of a lesson of courage. In many rayons and towns the good tradition has developed of a farewell ceremony for youth leaving for the army. The internationalist soldiers who served in Afghanistan also take an active part in military patriotic indoctrination.

The recent tankman Sergey Ivanov who works in a boarding school was a participant at the First All-Union Meeting of Reserve Servicemen held in Ashkhabad. Following the example of the students from the Vilnius Secondary School No 55, many schools are collecting materials describing the feats of the internationalist soldiers. Widely known in the republic is the feat of Sergey Shakhvorostov who posthumously was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

The movement "Equal the Heroes" being carried out in the republic has caused many young men to want to become officers. Among the first to voice such a desire was the brother of Sergey Shakhvorostov, Vitaliy. Also preparing to enter a military school are his junior brothers, Oleg and Aleksey.

Among the Soviet Baltic republics, Lithuania holds a leading place in the training of specialists for the USSR Armed Forces. There have been good responses from the district military units about the students of the DOSAAF schools and the PTU [vocational technical school]. For the results of the socialist competition last year, the challenge Red Banner of the Ground Troops were awarded to the Alitus Model DOSAAF Technical School (chief of the school, Col K. Medvedev) and a challenge

Red Banner of the Red Banner Baltic Military District to the Shyaulyay Model Unified DOSAAF Technical School (chief of the school, A. Sruogis). The graduates of these schools G. Shimulenis, S. Saldukas, A. Dolakov, D. Paplauskis and many others are carrying out their military duty conscientiously.

We express sincere gratitude to the party and soviet bodies and to the worker collectives of the Baltic republics and Kaliningrad Oblast for the fact that they show understanding for our problems and are actively helping the commanders and political workers indoctrinate ideologically convinced defenders of the motherland who are completely dedicated to the party and people.

In greeting the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, the Baltic soldiers are profoundly aware of their personal responsibility for guarding the northwestern frontiers of the fatherland and are doing everything to be constantly ready to deal an immediate and crushing rebuff to any aggressor. Today in formation are the successor soldiers and continuers of the heroic traditions of their fathers and grandfathers who participated in the Civil and Great Patriotic Wars. United closely around the Communist Party and completely dedicated to their people and to the ideals of communism, they together with the men from the Warsaw Pact countries and the socialist commonwealth vigilantly stand on guard for the revolutionary victories of their peoples as well as for the cause of peace and socialism.

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**Tasks of Armed Forces Medical Service:
Instructions of USSR Minister of Defense**
*18010354g Moscow VOYENNO-MEDITSINSKIY
ZHURNAL in Russian No 1, Jan 88 pp 3-9*

[Article by Professor, Col Gen Med Serv F.I. Komarov, Hero of Socialist Labor, winner of the USSR State Prize and academician of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences: "Tasks of the Armed Forces Medical Service in Light of the Party and Government Demands on Restructuring Public Health and the Instructions of the USSR Minister of Defense"]

[Text] The deeds and thoughts of the Soviet people are focused on successfully carrying out the plans of the 27th Party Congress and the decisions of the April (1985) and subsequent plenums of the Central Committee. Life has confirmed the correctness of the course worked out by the party. The nation is taking on new goals and has made a major step ahead in the development of socialist democracy. Qualitative changes have been set in the economy and agriculture has begun to develop more steadily.

The preparations for the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the celebrating of the significant jubilee confirmed the great international authority of the CPSU and the Soviet state. The report

by M.S. Gorbachev "October and Restructuring: The Revolution Continues" contains a constructive program for carrying out the party's general line of restructuring and ensuring a lasting peace in the world.

The signed Soviet-American Treaty on Eliminating Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles was an enormous political victory for our party in the fight for peace and for eliminating the nuclear threat. However, the international situation, due to the fault of the militant imperialist circles, remains complex. They want at whatever the cost to shatter the military strategic parity and achieve military superiority over the USSR. The party and government are doing everything required to ensure the security of the Soviet Union, our friends and allies. This is why it is essential in the future to increase vigilance and combat readiness of the Army and Navy and strengthen military discipline.

A major event was the recently adopted Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers "Basic Areas in the Development of Public Health and the Restructuring of Soviet Public Health in the 12th Five-Year Plan and in the Period up to the Year 2000." The decree raises the task of fundamentally restructuring our public health. For this we intend to carry out a system of measures to strengthen the prevention of illnesses and develop a healthy way of life, and by 1995, gradually introduce outpatient services for the entire population. Major measures will be carried out to improve the professional skills of medical personnel, to improve the quality and level of services of the general medical institutions and develop specialized medical aid. The level of the technical equipping of the public health institutions will rise significantly. There are plans to build and put into service hundreds of hospitals and polyclinics. The implementation of the designated measures will help to further improve the health of the Soviet people and the Army and Navy personnel.

The decree was thoroughly studied and discussed in the medical service units and facilities. The medical personnel made numerous valuable proposals which were considered in the instructions of the USSR minister of defense which outline the strategy and tactics in developing military public health during the 12th and 13th Five-Year Plans.

The new tasks will be carried out considering what was achieved over the last 10 years and what must be done. A good deal has been achieved. The organization and establishment of the organic medical service element, the military polyclinics, the district and garrison hospitals as well as the central medical facilities have been improved. Much has been done to strengthen their physical plant. Positive results can be spotted in improving the activities of the organic medical service element and this has made it possible to bring about a substantial improvement in therapeutic and preventive work in the

troops. The quality of outpatient services for the servicemen has improved. Methodological and organizational bases have been worked out for vocational recruitment. Specialized medical aid has undergone further development.

During these years a high level of providing the Army and Navy with medical personnel has been maintained, and an orderly system set up for training and advanced training of medical personnel. A large amount of scientific research was carried out and procedural and medical educational work noticeably intensified. Tangible shifts can be seen in the health indicators of the servicemen, in the epidemic situation and these are the result of the major measures carried out in recent years by the command of the Armed Forces, by the political bodies and by the rear services to improve not only the medical but also the material and routine support of the men. All of this persuasively shows that in all elements of the medical service, conditions have been established for a fundamental restructuring of their activities.

At the same time, an analysis indicates that the great possibilities which the service possesses are used far from completely and at times with low effectiveness. We must point out first of all the oversights in preventive work. We have not made a sufficiently effective study of the questions of adaptation to the conditions of military service and life, including in various regions of the nation. The recommendations worked out are not widely employed in the units and on the ships, and have not been incorporated in the guiding documents regulating combat training activities. The quality of outpatient services for the servicemen is not high everywhere and this is the basis method for preventing noninfectious illnesses and combatting the progression of existing illnesses. As before proper attention is not paid to the conditioning and physical training of the personnel, primarily the officers. According to the data of examinations, in particular in the SKBO [Northern Caucasus Military District], LenVO [Leningrad Military District], MO PVO [Moscow Air Defense District], the Black Sea and Baltic Fleets, 30-35 percent of the officers and generals are overweight and not more than 20 percent participates in physical culture. Physical training has been organized particularly poorly on the staffs and directorates and the higher the staff and directorate the poorer things are.

The military sanatoriums and vacation homes could play a more active role in maintaining and strengthening the health of the officers and generals. At present 60 percent of the officers in service and 20 percent in the reserves and retired (of those requiring this) are covered by sanatorium treatment. In these institutions not everything has been done to improve the quality of services or better the specialized and rehabilitation treatment. Family vacations are organized extremely slowly, the number of beds is used irrationally, particularly in the sanatoriums under the districts. Suffice it to say that regardless of the great demand for sanatorium and resort treatment, each year up to 15 percent of the cure trips are not taken.

The effectiveness of sanatorium supervision and antiepidemic measures in the troops is still weak. Because of this, in a number of districts, troop groups, fleets and Armed Services there still remains unsolved the problem of preventing acute pneumonia, illnesses of the circulatory organs, mental disturbances, injuries, skin and infectious diseases. We are still recording cases of viral hepatitis, acute dysentery, typhoid and paratyphoid infections, diphtheria and malaria.

Serious shortcomings exist in the therapeutic and diagnostic work of the organic medical service element, particularly in the MO PVO, the SAVO [Central Asian Military District], ZabVO [Transbaykal Military District], DVO [Far Eastern Military District], SGV [Northern Group of Forces], YuGV [Southern Group of Forces] and in Baltic Fleet. In many of the garrison hospitals and polyclinics, the therapeutic and diagnostic processes require improvement. The development of these institutions, their organization and establishment, physical plant and technical outfitting have lagged significantly behind the district and central hospitals and polyclinics. They do not have sufficient modern diagnostic equipment and the level of instrument and laboratory diagnosis in them is poor.

A further improvement in the activities of the organic medical service continues to remain the main task over the current and subsequent five-year plans. The state of medical support and public health for the personnel will depend largely upon successfully carrying this out. The requirements in this regard were worked out in the course of numerous training procedural assemblies. Unfortunately due to the poor organizational activities, the recommendations of the latter have been carried out far from everywhere, and primarily in the Air Defense Troops, the SAVO, the SGV, in the Baltic Fleet and elsewhere. Proceeding from what has been said, the main emphasis must be put on a strengthening of organizational work in the troops as well as an improvement in the procedural leadership and practical aid for the troop-level medical service.

Without lowering the quality of therapeutic and diagnostic work, it is essential to shift the center of gravity to the prevention of illnesses, viewing this as the main element in the restructuring of the medical service's activities. Here close attention should be paid to the adaptation problem as a solution to this closely involves the safeguarding and strengthening of the health of new recruits. In considering the exceptional urgency of the designated problem, in the immediate future we plan to work out a specific program for introducing research results on the questions of adaptation of various serviceman categories to the conditions of their activities.

The next area is outpatient treatment. It is essential everywhere to improve the quality indicators of outpatient work, and achieve better planning and organization of all its main areas—thorough examination, outpatient

dynamic observation, and the implementing of therapeutic and health-improvement measures. The successful implementation of this task will, undoubtedly, be aided by the new Manual on Outpatient Services and prepared by a large collective of specialists from the Military Medical Academy imeni S.M. Kirov and the TsVMU [Central Military Medical Directorate] of the Ministry of Defense. In accord with the party's program thesis of providing universal outpatient services for the public in the 12th and 13th Five-Year Plans, outpatient supervision should be provided not only for servicemen but also for all the reserve and retired offices, the members of serviceman families and the employees of remote garrisons. For these purposes the plan to extensively use the screening examination methods and computer equipment.

Each medical worker in cooperation with the command, the political bodies, the judge advocate and the party organizations must take an active part in fighting for a healthy way of life. Here an important role should be played by physical culture and sports. In the near future the most rigid measures will be adopted to improve the organization of physical training for the officers, as the most important factor in maintaining and strengthening their health.

For more fully satisfying the need for sanatorium and resort treatment and organized recreation, there are plans to increase the bed capacity of the military health resorts, to build new vacation homes, boarding houses in the districts and fleets. It is also essential to broaden family leisure of parents with children. Even this year we plan to increase the number of beds for children in sanatoriums and vacation homes up to 3,500 places and this will make it possible to improve the health of 40,000 children, that is, 4-fold more in comparison with last year.

It is essential to increase in every possible way the effectiveness of medical supervision and antiepidemic measures. Up to now medical supervision in the troops has often been carried out on a low organizational and professional level, without a thorough knowledge of the situation, and, as a rule, in following up on the trail of epidemic outbreaks. As before, basic attention has been focused on localizing and eliminating the already occurring epidemic consequences and not on studying the reasons for the outbreak of infectious illnesses. In anti-epidemic work, particularly in carrying out isolation and disinfection measures, the activities of the military physicians have been reduced at times merely to the evacuation of the ill. According to the existing data, only 30 percent of the number of patients is actively disclosed. At the same time the absence of an active position on this question leads to the late isolating of the sick and, consequently, to the spread of the illnesses in the troop collectives.

Disinfection remains a bottleneck in combatting infections. The percentage of coverage of facilities requiring disinfection treatment as a whole for the Armed Forces

does not surpass 80. In a number of places (ZabVO, KVO [Kiev Military District], DVO, PriVO [Volga Military District], and TOF [Pacific Fleet], disinfection is carried out without proper supervision and incompletely. Shortcomings are also encountered in the organizing of prophylactic inoculations (MVO, SAVO, Black Sea and Pacific Fleets and others).

The medical epidemiological institutions should first of all improve medical supervision and better the quality of the antiepidemic measures. It can be pointed out with satisfaction that some of them already begun to reform. Here the SEO [medical epidemiological department] of the Leningrad Military District and the Rocket Troops could serve as an example. However, other SEO continue to work in the old manner. In visiting the units, certain SEO specialists merely draw up numerous statements and reports which point out shortcomings. At the same time the work of eliminating the disclosed omissions and the instructing of the troop physicians by them are virtually not carried out. Nor do they always respond quickly to the first indications of a deterioration in the sanitary and epidemic situation in the troops.

We must most decisively put an end to the practice of the formal recording of shortcomings and particularly their intentional concealment. An important role should be played by the conversion to the new system of information dealing with the medical and epidemic state of the troops. The first experience has shown that the new procedure significantly broadens the range of officials responsible for meeting the prescribed conditions for the life and routine services of the servicemen and makes it possible to more effectively respond to changes in the epidemic situation as well as rationally maneuver the available forces to improve this. The period of restructuring places great demands as well on statistics. At the turning point in the nation's development, it is very important to provide each management body with complete and objective statistical information. Only then can one carry out leadership knowledgeably. This applies fully to the medical service, too. Over the next few years, there will be profound changes in all aspects of military medical statistics including scientific activities, personnel instruction and so forth.

A general direction is a further rise in the level of diagnostic and therapeutic work in all the medical facilities and primarily the garrison hospitals. It is essential to take effective measures to strengthen their physical plant, to improve the professional training of the physicians and increase the role of these hospitals as centers of therapeutic and preventive activities in the garrisons.

By the 1995, the capacity of the military hospitals will be increased by 6,500 beds and the district and garrison hospitals will be strengthened with medical and service personnel. The number of personnel per bed should be raised to the national level. At a number of the OVG

[district military hospital] they should establish departments for computer-assisted tomography, ultrasound research, artificial kidneys, vascular surgery, thermal injuries and so forth.

We are continuing the development and extensive introduction of a system of rehabilitation treatment of the sick and wounded and this will be largely aided by the publishing of the three-volume "Rukovodstvo po meditsinskoy reabilitatsii" [Manual on Medical Rehabilitation] and the establishing of a training center for rehabilitation treatment under the Main Military Clinical Hospital imeni N.N. Burdenko.

One of the most important measures in medical practice is the intensifying of the treatment and diagnostic process. This is caused by the fact that the average periods of treatment in the hospitals at times remain long. The measures being carried out in the given area are clearly insufficient. Here there are numerous reserves including precise work in the prehospitization stage, the rational organizing of the examination of patients, the introduction of the most effective diagnostic and treatment methods and the scientific organization of labor. By 1995, we intend to shorten the average hospital treatment stay by 15-20 percent. The brigade form of organizing labor and wages of the medical personnel should play an important role here as well as in improving the level of services for the patients. This system is to be introduced as of 1 January of the current year as the main one within the system of the USSR Ministry of Public Health.

The medical units, facilities, subunits and military schools are staffed with officers who possess high political, professional and moral qualities. Last year alone for high indicators in service, a large group of officers was awarded orders and medals, 2 men received the title "USSR People's Physician," 17 received "Honored Physician of the RSFSR" and 6 were awarded the USSR State Prize. Over 600 medical workers were awarded the insignia "Outstanding Public Health Worker."

However, the level of work with the officer personnel does not fully meet today's needs. Many of the shortcomings which were spoken of at the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee also are found in the medical service. This concerns primarily indoctrination work. In certain Armed Services and districts they are still slow in eliminating cases of drunkenness and negligent attitude toward one's service duties on the part of individual medical workers. Shameful phenomena such as bribery, the loss and shortage of medical supplies are encountered and for this a number of officers was held criminally liable.

The described is proof that certain chiefs of the medical service are not sufficiently closely concerned with the study and indoctrination of subordinates and do not know their needs and interests. Not all have realized that a physician and drunkenness are incompatible concepts.

It is impossible to entrust the life and health of the men to a physician who consumes alcoholic beverages. By all measures we must see to it that the medical workers are the most ardent propagandists of a sober and healthy way of life. And this must start in the schools where the future physicians must be given not only the knowledge and skills but also inculcated in high moral qualities. The struggle against alcoholism among medical workers should be uncompromising. The USSR Ministry of Public Health has raised the question of introducing into practice such a measure as depriving persons who have compromised themselves by alcoholism and other unseemly deeds of their medical diploma.

It is important to ensure succession in the work of the personnel and create reserves for promotion. Although the certification of the officer personnel carried out in 1986 showed that the medical service possesses skilled personnel (over 30 percent of the officers was recommended for high positions), nevertheless not everything is going smoothly with promotions, particularly the leading positions. Instances have been recorded when these positions have remained vacant for an extended time. Such a situation occurred in the MVO, ZabVO and a number of other districts. The medical service of the designated districts in having a large reserve of young, well-trained officers was little concerned with their service and professional growth and requested candidates from the center or from other places for any vacant position (particularly a leading one). The training of a reserve of officer personnel in these districts has not had a planned nature and is carried out without consideration of future needs.

The personnel policy has been and remains an important area of activity for the medical service. This should in every possible way meet the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress and the January Central Committee Plenum, it should be truly up-to-date and inseparably linked with the key areas of work. At present, in the new stage of restructuring, success in the matter will depend completely upon how fully we are able to bring out and activate the human factor, its creative potential, and ensure a vanguard role for each leader and each communist. We must work steadily so that each element of the medical service is headed by persons who are profoundly dedicated, true innovators, perfectly aware of the importance of changes and capable of breaking inertia and routine as well as carry out party policy creatively.

In 1987, a large amount of scientific research was carried out and for the improving of this, of essential importance was the exercise in the ZabVO which determined the main areas of scientific research and measures to work out a system of medical support for defensive operations in accord with the new Soviet military doctrine. At the same time, in analyzing the state of scientific activities, it is essential to emphasize that their effectiveness, particularly in employing the end results, is still insufficient. In the work of a number of scientific collectives, including

the Military Medical Academy imeni S.M. Kirov, there still are many omissions. The divorcing of scientific problems from practical needs is the most serious of these.

The training academies do not show proper tenacity in working out the aspects of medical support for defensive operations, the questions of treating combat surgical trauma and combat therapeutic pathology, or determining the criteria for assessing the activities of the medical service and which under the conditions of the restructuring of public health are assuming particular importance. Little has been done in solving the problem of automating the control of the medical service. One of the reasons for such a state is that the organization of scientific research on the automating of management and the military scientific support for industrial developments does not always conform to the needs of the times. Planned scientific research continues to end with reports and does not reach the point of developing software. The questions of automation in the interests of the district medical service are not being solved sufficiently effectively. The research data are not being generalized and do not have a convincing practical focus. Those forces which are concerned with the designated problems in the academy are scattered.

There must be a fundamental reorganization of this work and the start must be made by establishing a comprehensive specific program and by bringing together all the available forces and increasing responsibility for the end results. We must break the bureaucratic, abstract theoretical style of conducting the scientific research on automation, bring this closer to practice and to the real needs of the headquarters bodies and the medical service facilities.

There has not been a profound restructuring in the organization of scientific works in the troops and fleets, where there is still much formalism and lack of coordination. For example, according to the 1988 work plan of the Military Medical Academy, the medical service of the districts, troop groups and fleets was to be involved as executors for many questions but in the plans on the spot half the number of executors was provided.

The scientific work must be organized considering that views on the conduct of a war have changed, a new, defensive doctrine has been adopted, the nature of modern operations has become different, and there are changes in the views about war and peace, the number and structure of medical losses. In line with this, it is essential to rethink, clarify and add to the generally accepted views on medical support for the troops and naval forces. This presupposes not only a thorough analysis of the research carried out but also the elaboration of new problems involving the medical service of the districts, troop groups, fleets and Armed Services. It

is essential to activate all reserves which will increase the effectiveness of the scientific research, and focus attention on the main areas of research with a maximum rise in the results of it.

There must be further strengthening and development of the medical service's physical plant. Many hospitals, medical stations and medical battalions in such districts as the SAVO, OdVO [Odessa Military District], PriVO, ZakVO and the MO PVO are still located in insufficiently large quarters. The questions of capital construction and reconstruction are resolved extremely slowly, the completion of the projects is drawn out and the amount of incomplete construction has not declined. In 1987, the plan quotas were not carried out in the SAVO, UrVO [Urals Military District], the Leningrad Naval Base, the MVO, the MO PVO, the PriVO, the TsGV [Central Group of Forces] as well as in the Baltic and Pacific Fleets. In a number of districts and fleets (UrVO, SKVO [Northern Caucasus Military District], SibVO [Siberian Military District], the TurkVO [Turkistan Military District] and Black Sea Fleet), warehouses and storage facilities are being built poorly. The chiefs of the medical service should raise the questions more actively to the command and create the necessary conditions for the billeting of the patients and the storage of all types of medical supplies.

Regardless of the fact that in recent years there has been a noticeable improvement in the technical outfitting of the medical units and facilities and their supply of medicines, there continue to be substantial shortcomings in the organizing of medical supply. This applies chiefly to the organization of accounting, storage and economic expenditure of materiel. From 1 January 1988, new peacetime standards for the supply of medical equipment and supplies have been put into effect and these additionally included over 350 types of modern devices, instruments, therapeutic and diagnostic devices while at the same time around 400 obsolete and no longer produced models have been taken off. Thus, the additional annual demand for medical equipment and supplies will increase by 10 percent. In the shortest period of time we must everywhere organize a thorough study of the new supply standards and be guided by them in our work.

Inspections have shown that the planning of supply is often carried out without considering the real needs for medical equipment and medicines and without a careful analysis of their consumption and availability at the warehouses and medical institutions. As a result of this above-standard and long unused supplies of materials are created (OdVO, TurkVO, ZabVO, YuGV, TsGV, Northern Fleet and KF [?Caspian Flotilla]). As a rule, the main and leading medical specialists are removed from participation in this work. The medical service chiefs of the TurkVO, ZakVO, DVO, PriVO and YuGV have not gone deeply into the questions of the rational consumption of materiel, its safekeeping and organization of storage and this has led to embezzlement and abuse.

The medical service has great technical and other valuable materials. Each year enormous amounts are allocated for the acquisition of modern equipment and technology. The task is to use this technical potential with maximum efficiency. The struggle for economy and thriftiness and a thrifty attitude toward materials and money should become a major principle in the activities of the medical and pharmaceutical workers.

Last year was a year of intense training. As a whole the tasks for operational-rear and special training were carried out. The measures conducted helped to increase the field and sea skills of the medical personnel and to increase their professional mastery. However, a fundamental change has still not come about in combat training and in achieving stability in combat training indicators. The work of the medical service headquarters bodies is changing slowly and shortcomings can be seen in the organization of commander training.

The military medical schools are not always up to the tasks at hand. There continue to be instances of a negligent attitude toward the training of individual officer candidates and students as well as cases of infractions of military discipline among them. Serious gaps in professional knowledge of physicians are discovered in the state examinations as well as in the course of inspections. All of this necessitates a restructuring of the training of all levels of specialists.

In light of the provisions of the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "Main Directions in the Restructuring of Higher and Specialized Education in the Nation," measures have been worked out to fundamentally improve the activities of the military medical schools and improve the entire system of training and advanced training for military physicians.

In the new training year, important tasks confront the medical service. These derive from the demands of the Communist Party and the Soviet government to increase in every possible way the combat readiness of the Armed Forces and restructure public health as well as from the corresponding instructions of the USSR minister of defense. Their successful implementation to a decisive degree depends upon the effective organizational activities and political indoctrination of the leadership, the party, trade union and Komsomol organizations as well as upon the energy, purposefulness, initiative and efficiency of each worker. The attitude toward restructuring, not words but real deeds, is the guarantee for our success.

At present it is exceptionally important to put all levers of acceleration into operation. One of these is the socialist competition, a powerful and effective means for mobilizing the creative aspirations of the physicians, the middle-level and junior medical personnel to successfully carry out the set tasks. The strong and stable successes of the leading medical subunits, units and

facilities to a significant degree can be explained precisely by close attention to the competition, by a constant concern for its restructuring and improving.

In December 1987, the collective of the District Military Hospital imeni P.F. Borovskiy in the Red Banner Turk-
estan Military District responded actively to the patriotic initiative of the leading units of the Armed Services and challenged the Army and Navy medical personnel to join the all-Army socialist competition under the motto "Unstinting Military Service, Exemplary Service, and Highest—Our Contribution to the Cause of Defending the Motherland."

The Central Military Medical Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense has reviewed and completely approved the appeal of the hospital collective. It is recognized as essential to discuss this thoroughly and profoundly in all elements of the medical service, and to focus the competitors on a bold search for new reserves to further improve support for the servicemen. Things must be organized in such a manner that each man take an involved and effective part in the competition and devote all his forces, knowledge and experience to fulfilling the assumed socialist obligations. In the interests of service it is important to give the competition a professional, creative nature, to develop true competitiveness and militancy, to eliminate routine and formalism and to see to it in every possible way that it has an active influence on the achieving of real end results in our work. The communists and Komsomol members should be in the vanguard of the competitors.

During the year of the 19th All-Union Party Conference and the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, the medical service personnel see their duty in achieving new heights in improving their mastery, increasing combat readiness of the medical units and facilities and improving the health protection for the men who are the dependable defenders of the socialist motherland.

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Restructuring in Army, Navy: To Provide High Combat Readiness

18010354f Moscow PARTIYNAYA ZHIZN in Russian No 4, Feb 88 pp 9-15

[Article by Col Gen V. Nechayev, deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy: "Restructuring in the Army and Navy: To Provide High Combat Readiness"]

[Text] The Soviet people and their military are celebrating a significant date, the 70th anniversary of our valorous Armed Forces. Their history is glorious and rich.

During the jubilee year, it is wise to recall again how the Soviet Army and Navy were founded and developed, what difficulties they overcame and in what they see their present tasks.

Like the entire nation, the Armed Forces are on the march of restructuring. We have begun its second, most difficult stage with the center of activity shifting to the plane of the actual realization of the policy worked out by the party. Proceeding from this, the military councils, the commanders, the political bodies and the party organizations, in carrying out the instructions of the 27th Party Congress and the subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, are focusing their efforts on carrying out two interrelated key problems: a qualitative improvement in the USSR Armed Forces and the activating of the human factor on a basis of the democratization of social life in the troop collectives.

Certainly the restructuring under way in the Army and Navy is not isolated from their 70-year history. Quite the contrary, this is continuing and developing the heroic traditions, instructive experience is being drawn from the past and lessons gained for today.

The organizational development of the new, socialist army had no precedent. Lenin's party here was following an untrod path, a trail of constant search for creative solutions and new approaches. Like K. Marx and F. Engels, V.I. Lenin initially was convinced that a people's militia would be the armed defense of the revolution. On 29 October (11 November) 1917, he said: "Our task which we must not overlook for a minute is the universal arming of the people and the abolishing of the standing army."

But the specific conditions dictated a different solution. With the victory of the revolution, the military-political and strategic situation changed fundamentally. The Civil War forced on the people and the outside intervention demanded a completely new approach.

Under these conditions, V.I. Lenin as an authentic revolutionary Marxist, creatively and from dialectical positions approached the solution to the urgent problem. On the basis of an analysis of world events and the prospects of the struggle against imperialism, he proposed and established the idea of creating a powerful, professional new type of regular army which would be constantly ready to fight to defend the socialist fatherland against enemy attack.

The establishing of such an army was not an easy matter. This was carried out under conditions of terrible chaos, a shortage of weapons and ammunition, clothing and food. Moreover, it was essential to surmount the resistance of those who were endeavoring to instill partisan approach in the new army, who were against firm military discipline and exemplary order and underestimated party political work among the personnel.

The worker-peasant army demonstrated unprecedented combat strength and mass heroism. In the fire of the 3 years' fierce fighting, the Red regiments and divisions repulsed the thrust of superior forces from the domestic and foreign counterrevolution and dealt them a crushing defeat.

Proceeding from the new peacetime conditions, the party elaborated a scientifically sound program for the defense of the young Soviet Republic. Here of enormous importance were the fundamental concepts put forward by V.I. Lenin on the organized transition of the army to a peacetime status in maintaining it as a professional, regular army and on widening the nation's mobilization capabilities in the event of imperialist provocations and war.

The 1924-1925 military reform envisaged a changeover to a mixed territorial-professional system of military organizational development, it introduced one-man command, it improved the organization and establishment of the units and formations and strengthened the ideological and political indoctrination of the personnel. This influenced all spheres of military activity and strengthened the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces. In addition, the reform provided an opportunity for the Army and Navy personnel to make a major contribution to the cause of socialist construction, to the building of new plants and power stations as well as other important projects for the young republic. The army provided great help in training personnel for industry and agriculture.

Under the party's leadership the nation established heavy industry, including machine building, a defense industry and modern chemical production for those times. The industrialization which the USSR carried out on a qualitatively new level and brought our country to leading positions in the world made it possible to sharply improve the technical equipping of the Armed Forces.

The collectivization of agriculture established a foundation for modernizing the economy's agrarian sector and for converting it to path of efficient farming. As a result, there was a sharp increase in the potential of the countryside to solve the important problems of economic support for national defense.

On this path there were many difficulties and mistakes. But the heroic labor and self-sacrifice of the Soviet people produced results. In strengthening the economic and defense might of our nation, they thereby made a major contribution to confirming the ideals of Great October and to creating the bases of such a force which would make it possible to save the motherland from the Nazi yoke.

The Great Patriotic War placed particularly harsh conditions on the restructuring of the Armed Services. The military organizational work of the party was moved to one of the first places. This was carried out on a basis of the Leninist ideas and principles of a unity of political and military leadership.

The scale of military mobilization work carried out by the party Central Committee together with the party, soviet bodies and military commissariats is amazing even now. By the end of 1941, some 286 rifle divisions, 159 rifle brigades and 76 tank brigades had been constituted. Over the war years more than 20 million persons were inducted into the Armed Forces.

Along with the military mobilization work and the adding of new personnel to the Armed Forces, their structure was improved and the competence of the military headquarters bodies was broadened. With the constituting of new armies, the number of military councils rose and their membership was broadened. They bore all responsibility to the party Central Committee and to the Soviet government for combat activities and troop morale.

From the very outset of the war, the party Central Committee provided superior political leadership over the fighting, proceeding from the political and strategic goals. Due to this the work of Headquarters Supreme High Command [Hq SHC] which directly led the armed struggle of the people was characterized, as a rule, by decisiveness in setting the goals of the operation, by the skillful choice of the axes of the main thrusts and by the effective use of the reserves. The most important defensive and offensive operations entered the treasure house of world military art.

During the war years the Leninist party devoted constant attention to the questions of improving party political work and to strengthening party influence in the troops. The rights of the political bodies were broadened and their role was increased in organizing party political work and in carrying out troop battle tasks. Leadership over the Army and Navy party and Komsomol organizations was improved.

During the most difficult period of the war, the institution of military commissars was introduced into the Soviet Armed Forces. The military commissars united the men, they introduced a high fighting spirit into their ranks, they indoctrinated determination in fighting against the enemy and they increased the authority of the commanders. When the command personnel had acquired the necessary experience in troop leadership, the institution of military commissars was abolished.

The indefatigable workers of the war, the loyal fighters of the Leninist party, the political workers of the Army and Navy played a major role in indoctrinating the personnel and in increasing the battleworthiness of the units, ships and subunits.

Led by the party, our people and their soldiers steadfastly endured the first setbacks and defeats as well as the enormous losses. Every Soviet man on the front and in the rear had firm belief in the coming victory and for the sake of this did everything on the limit and beyond the limit of human strength.

The USSR Armed Forces joined by the troops of other Allied countries in the fight against the Nazis demonstrated unbeatable combat might. They routed the strongest and most experienced armies of the capitalist world: Nazi Germany and militaristic Japan. This was a result of the wise leadership of the party and its enormous work in organizing the Armed Forces in accord with the war's requirements.

At the present stage the intense work of restructuring the Soviet Armed Forces is being carried out under the conditions of the course implemented by the party of improving the economic mechanism and increasing economic efficiency. The program worked out by the 27th CPSU Congress for the nation's socioeconomic development is also of important defense significance.

Due to the party's concerns and to the efforts of all the people, the Soviet Army and Navy are developing on the basis of the achievements of scientific and technical progress and are armed with first-rate combat equipment and weapons. Within the limits set exclusively by the needs of defense, all the Armed Services are being improved, including: the Strategic Rocket Troops, Ground Troops, Air Defense Troops, Air Forces and Navy.

Our strategic nuclear forces are being maintained in accord with the principle of an adequate defense and within the existing military strategic parity between the USSR and the United States, the Warsaw Pact and NATO. The Army and Navy possess the necessary amount of conventional weapons. All of this makes it possible to ensure the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and carry out the tasks of collective defense in the socialist commonwealth.

But the possession of great capabilities in developing first-rate weapons in the Soviet Union never has been used for the purposes of threats, intimidation or political pressure. Vivid confirmation of this is the new political thinking worked out by the party. Its essence is the conclusion that a nuclear war cannot be a means of achieving political, economic, ideological or any other goals. Both world systems should become partners in the fight to maintain peace in the world. Under the conditions of the nuclear space age, they have only one alternative: survival or universal death.

The restructuring under way in the Armed Forces also serves as a reflection on our peace-loving foreign policy and the concept of new political thinking. This is natural. The Soviet Army was established, improved and indoctrinated as an army of friendship of peoples and the defense of our fatherland. Our army is an implement of the state which is not interested in wars.

An important political event in this area was the adoption at the Berlin Meeting of Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact States of a document concerning the military doctrine of these states and

which has a strictly defensive nature. For the first time in the existence of different sociopolitical alliances, a military doctrine has been openly proclaimed which is subordinate to the tasks of preventing war—both nuclear and conventional.

The Leninist party has fought steadily and consistently to achieve concrete results in resolving the key question of eliminating the nuclear threat, the question of reducing the strategic offensive weapons and preventing the movement of weapons into space. The new thinking is making wider and wider headway in world affairs and is destroying the stereotypes of anti-Sovietism and suspicion of Soviet initiatives and actions. The treaty signed at the end of last year by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, and the U.S. President R. Reagan, to eliminate the medium- and shorter-range missiles is an important step on the path to actually destroying the nuclear arsenal as well as improving and strengthening the international situation.

At the same time, we must not close our eyes to the problems, contradictions and even the abysses which separate today's world. The party teaches that the path to a nuclear-free, nonviolent world will not be simple or smooth. As the say, the ink was not yet dry on the Treaty for Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles when the reactionary forces in the West commenced fierce attacks against it and began to make demands on our country to eliminate the supposed "imbalance" which existed between the conventional weapons of the Warsaw Pact states and NATO. In December of last year, also several days after the signing of the treaty, the United States began producing a new generation of chemical weapons, binary ones.

The existence of a military threat still remains a harsh reality of our times. The main military danger is rooted in the nature of imperialism. Over all the postwar decades, the United States has been the initiator of the arms race. New weapons have been developed such as missiles, strategic bombers and nuclear submarines. Efforts are being made to develop the notorious Strategic Defense Initiative program. All of this will require enormous financial outlays. For this reason, military allocations are constantly growing. They began to increase particularly sharply with the coming to power of the current administration.

Such a policy is made particularly dangerous by the fact that it is based upon the concept of "nuclear deterrence" according to which nuclear weapons are depicted as an instrument for preventing war. In actuality this concept has no relation either to the prevention of war, to the maintaining of peace or the maintaining of defenses.

Time will show and life itself will provide the answers to the question of whether or not capitalism can abandon the arms race and adapt to conditions of a nuclear-free world. At the same time, one cannot help but see

something else: the peoples at present are not only openly present on the stage of history but are taking a more and more active direct part in world affairs and in the fight to prevent the nuclear threat.

These are the facts. In considering them, our party is conducting a realistic, firm foreign policy. "As long as the danger of war exists, as long as social revenge remains the heart of the West's strategy and militaristic programs, we in the future will do everything necessary to maintain defense might on a level which would exclude military superiority of imperialism over socialism," commented Comrade M.S. Gorbachev.

Hence, the particular demands made on the combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces. This should be such that no one could catch us by surprise and should provide the capability of the troops and naval forces by active fighting to repel the attack and guarantee dependable defense of the socialist fatherland.

At present particularly rigid demands are being made on the combat readiness of the strategic nuclear forces, the Air Defense Troops, the Air Forces and all forces standing alert duty. They should be capable at any moment and in any situation to begin to carry out the battle tasks assigned to them.

The restructuring under way in the Armed Forces has been dictated by the interests of further increasing combat readiness of the units, ships and subunits. Its essence is to improve the quality of combat and political training, to institute strict prescribed order everywhere and achieve higher, better results in combat readiness.

The restructuring is focused on the phenomena of stagnation, including incompetence and low efficiency of individual leaders, complacency and indifference. In combat training there still are instances of oversimplification and weaknesses, cases of diverting the personnel from exercises and the conducting of these on a low procedural level. There are still many omissions in the work of strengthening military discipline.

The commanders, political bodies and party organizations have begun the second stage of the restructuring and have achieved definite results in eliminating the stagnation phenomena. In the Army and Navy there are many commanders and political workers who organize work creatively and who are energetically reorganizing the style and method of their activities. The Moscow, Belorussian, Far Eastern, Turkestan and Baltic Military Districts and the Northern Fleet have made a noticeable turn toward actually organizing things in a spirit of the demands of the 27th Party Congress, the decrees of the CPSU Central Committee and the instructions of the USSR minister of defense.

In our Moscow District, around one-half of the formations and units completed the last training year with high indicators in training and service and almost one-quarter

of the personnel became outstanding men in military and political training, including over one-half of the communists. The teamwork of the subunits and units has improved.

However, the new approaches and the new criteria in assessing what has been done have not yet been taken up everywhere. Not all of the commanders and political workers judge their activities against the party's requirements. The main thing which is impeding the restructuring in the Army and Navy is the insufficient efficiency of a portion of the leading command and political personnel. Some of them lack initiative and boldness in overcoming the stagnation phenomena and updating the methods of troop leadership. One still feels the viewpoint: why hurry, show initiative or search for the new, is it not better to wait a but until these will be pointed out from "above"?

For this reason in a number of places organizational work has been ineffective in systematizing military service and bringing it into strict accord with the troop regulations. Individual important questions related to combat and political training, the strengthening of military discipline and improving the social sphere of life in the troops collectives are not always being resolved effectively.

The role of party political work is exceptionally great in eliminating the phenomena of stagnation and in fighting to further increase the combat readiness of the units and ships. Certainly this influences all aspects of military affairs, the conscience and feelings of the Soviet military, military and political training. Unfortunately, the phenomena of stagnation have not been overcome in ideological and political indoctrination, formalism is still alive and the living, concrete man is overlooked behind the bustle of all sorts of measures. Understandably political work plays its role only in the event that it itself is actively reformed. The restructuring of this in the Army and Navy is being carried out in a spirit of the general party approaches and here consideration is given to the particular features of military service.

One of the important areas of political work in the activities of the military councils, the commanders, the political bodies and the party organizations is constant and concrete work with the military personnel. The combat readiness of the Soviet Armed Forces depends primarily upon the level of their training and indoctrination.

Presently, over 90 percent of the Soviet officers are communists and Komsomol members and over 70 percent are specialists with a higher and special military education. Soviet officers are marked primarily by total dedication to the party and people and to the great cause of communism and by a desire to do everything to ensure the high combat readiness of the Armed Forces.

But we cannot be complacent with these general indicators. There still are numerous bottlenecks in the indoctrination and training of the personnel, and far from all the leader communists have gotten over the virus of supposed infallibility.

At the present crucial stage, the role and responsibility of the political bodies, as guiding bodies of the CPSU in the Soviet Army and Navy, have risen even higher. Along with the commanders and the party organizations, they have worked to bring about a further improvement and a rise in the quality and effectiveness of party political work, to link it more closely with the tasks which are being carried out by the subunits, units and ships.

The party bodies set the tone in the restructuring under way in the Army and Navy and in their activities set examples of organization and efficiency. For this they are studying constantly to learn to work in the new manner and more energetically, they are improving leadership over the party and Komsomol organizations and are striving for maximum high end results in improving combat readiness and in indoctrinating ideologically convinced, courageous and able defenders of the motherland.

But this is just a start. At times individual political bodies in the area of leadership focus their chief attention on "transmission" functions and not organizational ones. But to transmit instructions without backing them up by a concrete organization of things means to let the work drift. This is a red tape, bureaucratic style and has been condemned by the party and is unacceptable in practice.

The restructuring in the Army and Navy presupposes a constant strengthening of the party organizations and their greater militancy. Party organizations exist presently in all the subunits. They are fighting to arouse the initiative of the communists as well as the nonparty men and set out more boldly on the path of democracy and glasnost.

The free and professional discussion of the problems of party work, the life of the troop collectives, the search for effective ways to resolve them, extensive glasnost as well as constructive criticism and self-criticism are becoming the main stay of many party organizations. There is wider responsibility of the communists for the assigned area of service and for carrying out the party instructions. The fruits of such work are obvious.

By their personal example the communists of the units and ships ensure a better quality of military and political training, the carrying out of the socialist obligations as well as stronger discipline and organization. Communists head all the leading formations and units as well as 75 percent of the subunits which have achieved outstanding and good indicators. A majority of the CPSU

members and candidate members is outstanding men. The Army and Navy party organizations are being filled out by men from the leading specialties.

The restructuring requires constant efforts to further broaden democracy. This in no way contradicts one-man command in the Armed Forces. Democracy, under the conditions of Army and Navy life, presupposes the decisive rejection of naked administrative rule and a struggle against distortions of disciplinary practices. It is inconceivable without the closeness of the leaders to the broad masses of servicemen, without respect for human dignity and without a paternal concern for the men. The effectiveness of one-man command is increased in every possible way with such an understanding of democracy.

The party organizations must set an example in establishing democratic principles in the social life of the troop collectives. At present the process of purging internal party relations of unprincipledness, formalism and overorganization is developing wider and wider. It is a question not only of becoming "accustomed" to glasnost, greater criticism and self-criticism and a more respectful attitude toward others. It is a question of changes in the psychology of each man, from the regular communist up to the chief of the highest political body, and their ability to work creatively and in an aggressive manner under the conditions of the growing activeness of others.

The Komsomol organizations are also making a definite contribution to the indoctrination of the military. Komsomol members comprise a majority of the Armed Forces personnel. There are many glorious deeds to the score of the Army and Navy Komsomol. But life teaches that we must more tenaciously seek out new forms of work with the youth.

The political bodies and party organizations are focusing the restructuring in the leadership over the Army and Navy Komsomol primarily on granting it greater scope for independence, freeing it from minor interference and mobilizing the young soldiers to further strengthen military discipline and increase the combat readiness of the units and ships.

The restructuring in the Armed Forces has led and is leading to positive changes. But our dynamic times and the conditions under which we are living and carrying out our duty require more. It is essential to further increase the results from the activities of the military personnel, the political bodies and party organizations and work for the vanguard role of each communist. The preparations for the 19th All-Union Party Conference are also focusing the Army and Navy communists on increasing the exactingness and responsibility for the assigned job.

An important stage in this work has been the meetings of the party aktiv and the communist meetings with the discussion of the reports of the elected bodies. For the Armed Forces communists these have become a strict examination for restructuring.

In a predominant majority of the party collectives, the communists have spoken sharply and plainly about the shortcomings in combat training and in political indoctrination activities and they have analyzed why they have not been able to avoid them and have proposed what forms and means of work must be taken up in the new stage of restructuring.

Under the banner of properly greeting the 19th All-Union Party Conference, the units and ships with great activeness have conducted meetings for the personnel and in the course of these they discussed and adopted increased socialist obligations. In the new training year, these initiators of the socialist competition in the Armed Services are: a unit of the Strategic Rocket Troops, a thrice order-bearing guards tank regiment, a guards air defense antiaircraft missile regiment, a bomber aviation regiment, as well as the nuclear missile submarine "Minskiy Komsomolets."

The patriotic campaign of the initiators has been widely supported everywhere. All the Army and Navy personnel have actively joined in the competition under the motto "Unstinting Military Service, Exemplary Service and the Highest Discipline—Our Contribution to Defending the Motherland."

Born by October and nurtured by V.I. Lenin and the Communist Party, the USSR Armed Forces by their unstinting service to the fatherland and to the great ideals of communism have won sincere affection and gratitude from the Soviet people, the peoples of the socialist countries as well as all progressive mankind. Closely rallied around their own Communist Party, the Soviet military is doing everything to securely defend the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and the great victories of socialism.

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The Navy—Born from October

18010354e Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian
No 2, Feb 88 pp 17-19

[Interview with Flt Adm V.N. Chernavin, commander-in-chief of the Navy and USSR deputy minister of defense, Hero of the Soviet Union: "The Navy—Born from October"; date and place of interview and interviewer not given]

[Text] [Question] the history of the Navy, like the other Armed Services, is closely linked to the history of our state. Please tell us, comrade commander-in-chief, about the establishing and developing of the Soviet Navy as well as about the revolutionary and combat traditions of the sailors.

[Answer] In actuality, in a certain sense the well-known expression that we were all born out of October reflects this link better than anything else. For each Soviet person, the concepts of "revolution" and the "Navy" are indivisible and the sailor in his peakless cap and pea-jacket with machine gun belts crossing on this chest is one of the symbols of October.

Revolutionary sailors were among those who under the leadership of the Bolshevik Party prepared the armed insurrection and among those who were in first ranks in the storming of the Old World. Vladimir Ilich Lenin called the fleet the first among the three main forces of rebels and considered the sailors an advance detachment of the revolution.

The organizational development of the Soviet Navy had to be started from virtually zero. Having inspected the naval forces after the Civil War, the People's Commissar for Military and Naval Affairs, M.V. Frunze, concluded: "...We do not have a Navy."

It is all the more amazing that just 15 years later, by the start of the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet Navy already included 4 such task forces as the Black Sea, Baltic, Northern and Pacific Fleets and 4 flotillas. It possessed new powerful surface vessels and submarines of various classes as well as naval aviation, dependable shore defense and competent command and political personnel. Here is a fact showing the capability of industry at that time: in just 11 months of 1940, the Navy received over 100 fighting ships. Even now, decades later, such a burst seems fantastic.

During the Great Patriotic War, the Navy made a marked contribution to the defeating of the enemy. In fighting against the naval enemy and in helping the Red Army on the maritime sectors, the sailors destroyed over 1,400 enemy transports and 1,300 fighting ships and auxiliary vessels.

In the postwar times, over a short period an ocean-going nuclear missile Navy has been created by the efforts of the party and all the people in the USSR and this is an inseparable part of the nation's armed forces.

The main naval strike force is the strategic nuclear missile-carrying submarines which have a potential for destruction equal to several World War IIs. If we add to this that the nuclear submarines are of unlimited range and possess concealment and mobility, it is not difficult to conclude that these are truly global-scale weapons. The surface ship sailors also possess fundamentally new ships such as aircraft-carrying and nuclear cruisers, large ASW ships [BPK], destroyers, landing ships, including air cushion, and other classes of vessels. The naval infantry is armed with modern armored equipment and other combat vehicles. The coastal artillery is armed with effective weapons.

Naval aviation is also a naval strike force and it has long become ocean-going. It is equipped powerful, high-speed jet aircraft with great cargo capacity and range and with advanced automation and electronics.

Need it be said that the development of new equipment has required heroic military service from the sailors! Dedication to the party and the people, to the cause of the revolution, heroism and unstinting love for the motherland have been and remain the most important traditions of the Soviet sailors.

[Question] With what successes are the sailors celebrating the national holiday of Soviet Army and Navy Day?

[Answer] The form of activity for the sailors in peacetime is service in the world's ocean and lengthy and complicated voyages. Precisely here the will and skill of the commanders are tested, as well as the professional and political qualities of the crews, and their ability for an extended time to maintain combat and moral-psychological readiness and keep a high moral spirit.

The 70th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces is being celebrated with a feeling of performed duty by the crews of the cruiser "Kiev," the nuclear missile submarine under the command of Capt 1st Rank Nikolayevskiy, the BPK "Ochakov," the guards BPK "Krasnyy Krym," the patrol boat "Ladnyy" and others. They excel in stability in carrying out the set tasks, high results in executing the battle exercises as well as teamwork and discipline.

One other proof in favor of extended voyages is the increased number of high class specialists and outstanding men in military and political training. At present, in the Navy one out of every two servicemen is such.

It is a pleasure to point out that at present, the commander and political workers are showing an ever more restrained and realistic approach to assessing their activities and that they view each success as ongoing. Nevertheless, there still are many unsolved questions in the Navy.

[Question] The 27th CPSU Congress set for the Soviet Armed Forces, including the Navy, the task of increasing combat readiness and vigilance as much as possible, and maintaining constant readiness to defend the great victories of socialism. How is this being carried out and in what basic areas is restructuring going on on the Navy ships and in the units?

[Answer] This is a very important question. We all remember the case of the violating of Soviet air space by the West German light aircraft and this forced each serviceman to rethink his understanding of duty and responsibility for the defense of the motherland.

Our commander and political workers each hour and each minute must work to restructure the awareness of the men, and to eradicate indifference and complacency, incompetence, thoughtlessness and negligence and oversimplification in study as well as other negative phenomena which can tell badly on combat readiness.

The fleets are hard at work to eradicate routine and oversimplification, and the practical focus of training has been strengthened in the aim of bringing this as close as possible to a combat situation and the carrying out of combat training tasks in direct proximity to probable enemy ships. A very important area of restructuring is the improvement of control. However, many commanders have not overcome their habit of acting upon orders from above. Now we must have bold and decisive actions, a creative search and new approaches to carrying out the vital problems for the fleet.

However, a word must be said about the personnel work. Unfortunately, as yet not all the offices realize that modernizing occurs where the men begin restructuring with themselves. For the commanders, political bodies, party and Komsomol organizations this is the number-one task because the strength of the Navy is not just in ships and weapons but primarily in men.

[Question] The Army and Navy are supporting beneficial initiatives arising in the course of restructuring. Please tell us about the most interesting of these.

[Answer] There are many such examples. Everywhere the restructuring has brought about an influx of energy, enthusiasm and creativity. Here it is a pleasure to note that "initiative" with a hint of careerism is becoming less and less. At present the main criterion for evaluating the initiative which has arisen is its actual benefit for the cause of combat readiness.

Primarily this is a movement for the successful mastery of the equipment and weapons, for an outstanding ship, leading formation, for detecting targets at maximum range and hitting them with the first rocket launch, artillery or torpedo salvo, and for surpassing the norms in readying the weapons, equipment and the ship for combat and a cruise.

A new content has been taken on by such old initiatives as the fight of the sailors and petty officers for receiving the rank of specialist second class during the first year and first class during the second, the mastery of a specialty on the level of master of military affairs, and the struggle for the right to be called a successor of the best war-year specialists.

New rituals are arising such as initiation into the submariners, landing troops and antisubmarine troops as well as new traditions. For example, the sailors of the Black Sea Fleet in being discharged into the reserves from ships bearing Komsomol names have begun training preinduction youth for service in the Navy. The first

assembly of Navy reservists has already been held, reserve crews have been organized for such ships in Chelyabinsk and Magnitogorsk, and specific work is being carried out with schoolchildren and students in the PTU [vocational-technical school]. I feel that this movement has great opportunities for improving military patriotic indoctrination and for preparing the youth for serving in the Navy.

In the course of the competition to properly celebrate the 70th anniversary of Great October, many useful initiatives have arisen among the submariners and surface ship personnel, the aviators and construction workers. For example, the men of the aviation unit where officer G. Troshkin serves have come out with the proposal: "Each member of an aircraft crew should master a related specialty." The result has been a significant reduction in the time required to ready the aircraft for a combat sortie. Here in this unit all the aviators are class specialists, one out of two pilots or navigators is a specialist first class and scores of men are masters of military skills.

[Question] The frontiers of the USSR stretch over many thousands of miles. Flags of Soviet naval vessels ply all the oceans of the world. How do the sailors of the Soviet nation understand the demand to securely stand the ocean watch?

[Answer] We are patriots and are proud of the fact that the USSR is a great seapower, the shores of which are washed by 14 seas and 3 oceans and the length of the sea frontiers is over 40,000 km. But a frontier which runs along mountain ranges, river beds, the 12-mile limit and the state security boundary for a long time have not coincided. Moreover, the deck-based aviation of an aircraft carrier located in the Mediterranean with nuclear weapons on board can reach Kiev while a missile launched from a submarine in the Atlantic can reach the Urals and beyond. In addition, there are also countries friendly to us which are threatened with aggression...

In accord with the requirement of our military doctrine, the ships of the Soviet Navy stand watch on the expanses of the Atlantic, the Mediterranean, the Arctic, Pacific and Indian Oceans. The very fact of their presence there restrains the aggressive aspirations of the imperialists and stabilizes the position in virtually all corners of the world's ocean. To prevent a surprise attack and to thwart any attempt of aggression from the sea—this is the purpose of the ocean watch which the Soviet sailors stand day after day.

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Combat Wings of the Motherland

18010354d Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian
No 2, Feb 88 pp 14-16

[Interview with Mar Avn A.N. Yefimov, commander-in-chief of the Air Forces and USSR deputy minister of defense, twice Hero of the Soviet Union: "Combat Wings of the Motherland"; date and place of interview and interviewer not given]

[Text] [Question] Comrade commander-in-chief, please tell us when the Soviet Air Forces were established and what contribution they have made to defending our motherland.

[Answer] Vladimir Ilich Lenin stood at the sources of the founding of the Soviet Air Forces and he perspicaciously defined their role and importance in the defense of socialist victories. He was responsible for the fundamental decisions on organizing Soviet aviation.

The situation which existed by mid 1918 required the establishing of a body which would bring together the aviation units on a republic-wide scale and organize and lead their combat actions. For this purpose, on 24 May 1918, the Main Directorate of the Worker-Peasant Red Air Force was organized. On 22 September, under the staff of the RVSR [Republic Revolutionary-Military Council], the Field Headquarters of Aviation and Navigation of the Operational Army (Aviadmor) was established.

On the fronts of the Civil War, the Red pilots, in defending the victories of the revolution, carried out various combat tasks. The party and government had high praise for the feats of the aviators. The highest state decoration of those times, the Order of the Red Banner, was presented to 219 men. Some 16 of them received this order twice, while S. Monastirev, I. Pavlov, P. Mezheraup, Ya. Moiseyev and Ye. Ukhin received it three times.

After the Civil War, under the conditions of the constant threat of attack on our motherland, there was an acute need for the development of aviation. Due to the unstinting efforts of the Soviet people, in a brief period of time an aviation industry was established, and it began to produce Soviet types of aircraft.

The pilots, too, responded with an entire cascade of outstanding achievements as well as unprecedented examples of courage and heroism. The instituting of the title of Hero of the Soviet Union in our nation is linked precisely to their activities. The first to receive it were A. Laptevskiy, S. Levanevskiy, V. Molokov, N. Kamanin, M. Slepnev, M. Vodopyanov and I. Doronin—participants of the Chelyushkin saga and V. Chkalov and M. Gromov who made the nonstop flights from Moscow across the North Pole to America. The air fighters demonstrated high moral, political and combat qualities

in providing international aid to the Spanish and Chinese peoples and in fighting against the Japanese invaders at Lake Khasan and on the Khalkhin-Gol River.

With the outbreak of the Great Patriotic War, our party and government initiated enormous organizational work to increase aircraft and weapons production. By the decision of Headquarters High Command on 29 June 1941, the position of commander of the air forces and deputy people's commissar of defense was established.

Significant changes came about in their organization and establishment. In March 1942, on the basis of the long-range bomber formations and units, long-range aviation was established and from May 1942, they began constituting air armies in the frontal [tactical] aviation. Due to the unstinting labor of the Soviet people and to the courage and heroism of the military aviators who entered battle under exceptionally difficult conditions, our Air Forces even in the Battle of Moscow wrenched the initiative from Nazi aviation and continued this in the skies of Stalingrad and the Kuban. In the air engagements over Kursk, they won strategic air superiority and held it until the war's end. Soviet fighters and bombers were marked by high flight and combat qualities and the legendary Il-2 was rightly considered the world's best attack plane.

A major contribution to the development of Soviet aviation was made by the collectives of the design bureaus headed by S. Ilyushin, A. Yakovlev, S. Lavochkin, A. Mikoyan, V. Petlyakov, A. Tupolev and others. We must not forget the work of the aircraft engine developers V. Klimov, A. Mikulin and A. Shvetsov. The motherland was proud of those who did develop and are developing first-rate aviation equipment.

During the years of the Great Patriotic War, the Air Forces made over 3 million combat aircraft sorties. Over 600,000 various caliber bombs were dropped on the enemy, and an area of 6.5 million square kilometers was photographed and this was 1 million square kilometers more than the territory of the European USSR. Some 48,000 out of the 50,000 enemy aircraft put out of operation on the Soviet-German Front were destroyed in the air and at the airfields. The history of wars knows no feats like those committed by the Soviet flyers during the years of the Great Patriotic War. They employed an air ram over 600 times, 34 pilots did this twice and Hero of the Soviet Union A. Khlobystov three times. The feat of N. Gastello carried out on 26 June 1941 was repeated by another 502 Soviet pilots over the period of the war.

The motherland had proper respect for the feats of its valorous winged sons. During the war years alone, around 200,000 Soviet aviators were awarded orders and medals and 2,420 flyers were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, with 65 men receiving this high title twice and A. Pokryshkin and I. Kozhedub three times. Some 228 aviation formations, units and subunits of the

frontal aviation and long-range aviation were turned into guards units, 897 were awarded battle orders and 708 received honorific designators.

[Question] We would like it if you gave a brief description of the present stage in the development of our military aviation. How has it changed?

[Answer] During the postwar period, the development of aviation equipment and weapons has continued rapidly. The steadily growing economic and scientific-technical base of the Soviet Union has created conditions for the converting of the Soviet military aviation from the piston-driven aircraft to jet and turboprop ones. In December 1945, this question was discussed specially in the party Central Committee and the government. The design bureaus quickly developed fundamentally new models of equipment.

In 1947-1950, series production commenced on jet aircraft designed by A. Mikoyan and A. Yakovlev (and YaK-15). Fighter aviation began receiving the MIG-15, MIG-17, LA-15, YaK-17, YaK-23 and other jet aircraft. These reached a speed close to the speed of sound. Then the Soviet Air Forces began receiving multipurpose fighters, all-weather supersonic fighter interceptors, supersonic fighter bombers as well as supersonic frontal and long-range bombers and powerful air transport.

The appearance of the new aviation equipment and weapons involved changes in the organization and establishment, in the training and classifying of the flight and technical personnel.

In 1946, the position of commander-in-chief of the Air Forces and USSR deputy minister of the armed forces (later the deputy minister of defense) was introduced. The long-range aviation (1946) and military transport aviation (1955) in organizational terms were constituted as types of aviation. Fighter bomber aviation (1957) was developed in the place of attack aviation.

Soviet aviation was the cradle of cosmonautics. The first cosmonaut, Yuriy Alekseyevich Gagarin, emerged from the winged formation of air fighters.

[Question] With what achievements are the military aviators approaching the national holiday of the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces?

[Answer] The Air Forces personnel in every possible way is increasing political vigilance, organization and discipline, they are steadily improving air and fire skills and combat readiness and they are strengthening cooperation with the other Armed Services. They are learning what will be required in modern combat.

The successful carrying out of these tasks is being aided by the restructuring started in the work of the leading cadres in a spirit of the party's demands and by effective

party political work. The efforts of the party and Kom-somol organizations are aimed at developing creative initiative of the aviators, intolerance for bureaucracy, stagnation phenomena and routine in carrying out combat training tasks. The combat training and tactical flight exercises are being conducted under conditions as close as possible to actual combat.

The nation knows the names of the peacetime hero aviators. Among them is pilot G. Yeliseyev who carried out the first air ram of a violator aircraft on a highspeed jet fighter. There are the pilots who distinguished themselves in carrying out their international duty in Afghanistan such as V. Pavlov, V. Gaynutdinov, Ye. Zelnyakov, N. Kovalev, V. Kucharenko, A. Levchenko, N. Malyshhev, V. Ochirov, V. Pismennyy, P. Ruban, S. Filipchenko and V. Shcherbakov. Maj Gen Avn N. Antoshkin who directed the actions of the military aviators during the most crucial period of burying the reactor at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant.

In the intense working days the aviators mature, they become stronger spiritually and they hone their flying skills. Night and day, in any weather they scramble their aircraft, dependably protecting the creative labor of the Soviet people.

It is not in our rules to be complacent with what we have achieved. We proceed from the fact that there are no limits in the improving of combat readiness. The very pace of life set by the 27th Party Congress and by the June (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee does not allow us to work today as we worked yesterday. All the combat headquarters bodies are tightening up and the vigilance and responsibility are growing.

Under conditions of justness, exactingness and glasnost, the Air Forces personnel is seeking out the most effective ways for a qualitative implementation of tasks. "Time demands from all of us," said the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, M.S. Gorbachev, "to think in a new manner, to act in a new way and to achieve new qualitative changes in everything and everywhere."

The personnel has set new obligations for the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army and Navy and these are aimed at further improving air, fire and tactical skills and bettering the combat training level of the aviation formations and units.

The Soviet people should have no doubt as to the ability of the Air Forces to always be on guard for the interests of the security of the motherland and the socialist commonwealth countries. They possess enormous strike power and the capacity to reach any point in the world. But they have never been employed and will not be employed as a weapon of intimidation, blackmail and provocation. However, if an aggressor attacks our motherland or our friends, he can expect an inexorable slashing blow of retaliation.

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At the Controls of Strategic Missiles

18010354b Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian
No 2, Feb 88 pp 7-10

[Interview with Army Gen Yu.P. Maksimov, commander-in-chief of the Strategic Rocket Troops and USSR deputy minister of defense, Hero of the Soviet Union: "At the Controls of Strategic Missiles"; place and date of interview and interviewer not given]

[Text] [Editorial Introduction] The history of the Soviet Armed Forces is the history of our socialist state. Established upon the personal instructions of the Vladimir Ilich Lenin for defending the victories of the revolution, they together with the nation, with the Soviet people, have traveled a glorious 70-year path. The feats of the heroes of the Civil War, the courage and valor of the soldiers of the Great Patriotic War will remain forever in the chronicle of our heroic accomplishments. Born in the battles and engagements, the traditions are being carefully fostered and added to in the military service of today's generation of men.

On the eve of the jubilee of the Soviet Army and Navy, the editors have turned to the commanders-in-chief of the Armed Services with a request to answer certain questions touching upon the history of the founding, development and tasks of the units and subunits in the current stage of Soviet society's life. The notes of the interviews are published below. [End of Editorial Introduction]

[Question] Comrade commander-in-chief, please tell us what have been the results in combat training and service achieved by the rocket troops on the eve of the national holiday, the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces.

[Answer] Like all the armed defenders of the socialist fatherland, the men of the Strategic Rocket Troops are endeavoring to make a worthy contribution to carrying out the history decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and honorably greet the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces.

We can say to the party and to our people on the day of the glorious jubilee that we have something to be proud of. More than one-half of the rocket units in terms of the year's results has outstanding and good evaluations. Having taken a leading position in the socialist competition, the military collectives led by officers N. Ulyanov, N. Mikhaylov, Ye. Bykov, L. Nesolenyy and A. Ulko have again achieved success.

One out of four rocket men has become an outstanding man in political and military training or has confirmed this title on the threshold of the Armed Forces jubilee. A

new detachment of masters of military affairs and high-class specialists has been trained. Some 70 percent of the combat crews has shown stable, high results in military training. We would particularly like to point out the crews headed by officers A. Artamonov, V. Pozdeyev and I. Volkov. All the combat training missile launches last year were carried out successfully. A majority of those who received their lieutenant's shoulderboards during the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October has properly commenced their officer service. They have confidently taken their place in the combat crews.

Under difficult weather conditions, the rocket troops provided help to the agricultural workers in harvesting. For conscientious work many collectives were awarded the challenge Red Banners and pennants of the Komsomol Central Committee, the obispolkoms and rayispolkoms, diplomas, prizes and honorary diplomas of the RSFSR Gosagroprom [State Committee for the Agroindustrial Complex].

But the achieved successes do not give us the right of complacency. The 27th Party Congress and the July (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee set responsible tasks for the Armed Forces. And the difficult international situation and the present party demands to increase combat readiness, to get rid of laxness and indifference and to strengthen military discipline in the troops oblige us to increase the efforts made in all areas of our work. At present we cannot say that the tasks confronting the Rocket Troops are being carried out as we would like. There was a serious discussion of this in the party organizations at the end of last year, when the question was discussed of the course of restructuring in the troop collectives.

[Question] In what directions is the restructuring being carried out in the Strategic Rocket Troops?

[Answer] The basic directions and tasks of restructuring have been set out by the 27th Party Congress and by last year's January and July Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee. For us, restructuring consists in the greatest possible improvement in the quality of combat and political training, in intensifying the training process, in strengthening the practical focus of personnel training, as well as in increasing organization, discipline and vigilance.

By restructuring we also understand the ongoing overcoming of acquired shortcomings in the daily diverse activities of the troops and in organizing the training and indoctrination of all serviceman categories. We see our tasks in the complete democratization of life in the army collectives, in the steady rise in the role of the general troop regulations, in the strict observance of socialist legality and social justice and in a decisive turn toward science. Restructuring is also the intensification of the

social focus in the activities of the military personnel and indoctrinating them in the ability to create the necessary conditions for service, combat training, the life and routine of the personnel.

Restructuring in the troops is carried out more successfully when the tone in this is set by the leadership. And precisely because not all the leaders have as yet realized this, certain units have surrendered their positions in the socialist competition. It is important that the military collectives be headed not only by intelligent, educated people who know military affairs well, but rather by leaders who in addition excel in high organizational abilities. At present, we must all study and teach our subordinates to serve under conditions of widening democracy, in a situation of glasnost, criticism and self-criticism. Here of particular importance is the conscientious fulfillment of the prescribed and official duties by each serviceman.

The times demand that each commander and political worker show new thinking and new approaches to the job. It is essential to decisively eliminate the appearance of business, useless meetings and a style of work involving administrative pressure. The specific man with his daily concerns and needs should be at the center of attention for all ranks of leaders.

At present we say that the figure and conscience of the army are the honest and pure vision of the military leader. The experience of the best officers shows that the authority of leadership in the troops is exclusively the authority of the mind, the professionalism, personal discipline, strictness and democracy. I respect a competent commander who has won recognition and who is the true leader of a military collective. Where he is found one can see successes in military and political training, there the soldiers and NCOs show a conscientious attitude toward their job, they experience a feeling of pride for their subunit and unit and fight for their authority. It happens that a responsible and tense moment in combat training coincides with the discharging of the men into the reserves. But they are in no hurry to say farewell to the unit which has become their home, and write reports requesting to remain at their posts during this period and assume additional burdens. And then their appeal to all the men "Act in a combat manner!" has a truly burning ring to it.

Restructuring is inconceivable without a strengthening of military discipline which is the basis of combat readiness. Aware discipline for a conscientious soldier is a standard of conduct and a standpoint of life. But for the lax it is a burden. The army is maintained by hard military service, at times exhaustingly difficult, and for idlers, irresponsible and negligent persons, this does not come easily. The restructuring should disclose such individuals in shoulderboards. It is essential to indoctrinate the men in the collective and through the collective—party and military—so that each person feels his personal responsibility for the common undertaking and for

the combat readiness of the troops and so that each, from the soldier to the general, conscientiously carries out his service duties according to the regulations and according to his position.

[Question] What is the main, determining feature in the successes of the leading units and subunits?

[Answer] To answer this question briefly, it is the human factor. Certainly only by the concrete deeds of concrete individuals is it possible to confirm the confidence of the party Central Committee that under the present-day conditions, all the communists and all the personnel of the Army and Navy will act in a spirit of restructuring, raise and improve military skill and strengthen the combat potential and readiness of all the Armed Service and combat arms.

Under army conditions, all positions are important. Each is responsible for a certain area of work and which influences directly or indirectly our main undertaking, combat readiness. In the Rocket Troops, this particular feature is that the soldiers, sergeants, warrant officers and officers are directly involved in carrying out strategic tasks. They weapons which they control, the combat missile systems, are collective weapons. Their successful mastery and employment are possible only under the conditions of the correct execution of the entire diversity of tasks in the life and activities of the troops. If in a missile unit, for example, combat training has been well organized but political training is lax, then one cannot count on the conscientiousness of a soldier. If the men are not well provided for, if there is no active thoughtful concern for their social needs and if the rear services work poorly, it is difficult to mobilize the men to effectively carry out battle tasks. They will not be carried out if the work of the political bodies, the party and Komsomol organizations is not raised to a new level.

Many of us know officer V. Pestov, one of the best specialists of the Rocket Troops, a crew commander, a master of military affairs, an outstanding man in military and political training. A characteristic detail is that the officer has boldly adopted for his crew all that is new, advanced that the troops have acquired. His subunit has always excelled in the highest level of combat training. At present he is successfully studying in a military academy.

Officer V. Makeyev has great authority among the missile troops. He has been standing combat alert for more than 20 years. Two decades at the battle station has been a time of constant stress, steadfastness and courage, and high readiness to carry out an order. The frontline veterans know that the most difficult in a war is the waiting for the order "Forward!" And here 20 years, thousands of days in a state of alert and enormous strain minutes away from war. Only a courageous, strong-willed man with strong character can endure. This is a feat of military service in peacetime.

The commander of the missile unit, the officer A. Otroshko, carries out his difficult duties honorably. The unit which he commands for a long time has been one of the best on the questions of organizing combat and political training. A. Otroshko devotes a great deal of attention to training the personnel of the duty shifts. He combines high exactingness with personal responsibility and a constant concern for the life and routine of the servicemen. The senior chiefs have repeatedly commended him for a zealous attitude toward his duties.

Such persons as I have described were, are and, I am firmly convinced, will be in the Rocket Troops. Honest, conscientious and unstinting service for the motherland is one of the main traditions of our Armed Service.

[Question] What goals have the Rocket Troops set for themselves in combat advancement?

[Answer] The high combat capabilities, the nature of the nuclear missile weapons, the specific way of the daily life and service of our men and the particular demands placed on their ideological conditioning and military skills, discipline and vigilance determine the goals which we are endeavoring to achieve in the jubilee year of our Armed Forces.

The main tasks confronting us are to provide constant, high combat readiness of the units to launch the missiles, a higher level of professional skills for the duty shifts and the effective carrying out of the military and political training plans and programs.

Particular attention is being paid to the training of the combat crews. The socialist competition between them helps for all the men to have an increased class rating and the commanders to reach the title of "master of military affairs." The stability of the high results in the combat skills of the duty shifts, regardless of the rotation of the crew numbers, is one of the most important tasks for the new training year.

The principle of teaching the troops what is required in war remains the determining factor in training the crews. In using the words of Lenin, we should accompany all our steps toward peace with the intensifying of all our combat readiness. We are trying to follow this rule in accord with those tasks which the 27th CPSU Congress set for the Armed Forces.

By their military service, by intense combat training, and by the readiness to completely carry out their duty, the Rocket Troops are maintaining the Leninist course of the Communist Party and the Soviet state aimed at checking the arms race and increasing the defense capability and security of our motherland.

[Question] The missile shield of the motherland? What does this mean, comrade commander-in-chief?

[Answer] "We are strategic!" the rocket troops say with pride. They are all very different individuals, but they are linked together into a unified troop organism by the interesting, intense service in the Strategic Rocket Troops which for many has become a calling and the main undertaking of their life. They all hold the missile shield of the motherland in their hands. Generations of rocket troops relieve one another and the place of the fathers is taken by the sons, but none who holds this shield has waived in hand or heart, none has lost faith and none has ceased to believe in the triumph of socialist ideals.

The Strategic Rocket Troops are the masters of the most powerful weapons. Over all the years of their history, there has not been a single day, hour or minute when alert duty before the strategic control boards has been interrupted. In always being in constant high combat readiness, they carry out a task of special state importance in securing the safety of our motherland and maintaining peace in the world. The high ideological conviction of the Soviet rocket troops, their total dedication to the people, their mastery of the weapons and equipment and vigilant standing of alert duty are an enormous restraining factor on the path of the aggressive aspirations of imperialism and a guarantee of constant readiness to retaliate against any aggressor who dares encroach on our country or the socialist commonwealth countries. This is what the motherland's rocket shield means.

To serve the motherland in truth and out of military duty, with honor and conscience, with a feeling of the highest responsibility to the party and to the people, to the entire country and the entire socialist commonwealth—this is probably the highest justification and satisfaction from our military service.

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70 Years on Guard For Peace and Socialism

18080354a Moscow VOYENNY VESTNIK in Russian No 2, Feb 88 pp 2-6

[Article by Army Gen Ye.F. Ivanovskiy, commander-in-chief of the Ground Troops and USSR deputy minister of defense. Hero of the Soviet Union: "70 Years on Guard for Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] During the days of the holiday parades, when the troops are marching solemnly through the streets and squares of our cities, Soviet people from young to old view with excitement the measured pace of the columns and the flow of steel the mighty armored equipment. Our people love their Armed Forces, they are proud of their undying military glory and spare nothing to constantly strengthen national defense and improve the combat arsenal of the Soviet Army and Navy.

In November of last year, the Soviet national and all progressive mankind celebrated a truly historic event, the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. At present, we are on the threshold of an analogous jubilee for the Soviet Armed Forces.

Our motherland with a confident pace is following the path of communist construction. As the result of the ongoing and tenacious struggle to carry out the CPSU Program and the tasks posed by the 27th Congress, the Soviet people under the tested party leadership have taken a new step in strengthening the socialist system and the ideological and political unity of Soviet society, in accelerating the growth of social production and improving the well-being and culture of the workers. The restructuring being carried out in the nation should also provide favorable conditions for further economic growth.

The 12th Five-Year Plan is a plan of peaceful construction. However, in the present-day difficult international situation, the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet government not for a minute forget the strengthening of the USSR Armed Forces. "As long as the danger of war remains and as long as social revenge remains the heart of the West's strategy and militaristic programs," emphasized M.S. Gorbachev in the report at the joint ceremony of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the RSFSR Supreme Soviet in November of last year, "we in the future will do everything required to maintain defense might on a level excluding the military superiority of imperialism over socialism."

The years are passing and the generations of Soviet people in military greatcoats change in the monolithic army organism. But loyalty of the men to the cause of Lenin and to their socialist fatherland and the readiness to defend the victories of Great October against the encroachments of any aggressor remain unchanged.

Bourgeois propaganda, in endeavoring to distort the purpose of Communist Party policy in the area of strengthening USSR defense capability and in justifying the arms race in the imperialist states, has tried to resurrect the myth of the "Soviet threat." This is an intentional lie. We and the other socialist states do not have and cannot have social groups interested in war. It is no accident that the first foreign policy act by the young Soviet Republic was the famous Lenin Peace Decree. The Soviet Union has never threatened anyone and has not attacked anyone. It does not intend to encroach on the security of any state in the future. This stems from the very nature of socialism.

The policy of the Soviet Union and the other socialist commonwealth countries is aimed at checking the forces of militarism and war and at ensuring a lasting peace and

dependable security for all peoples. In order to successfully carry this out, it is essential to have strong Armed Forces capable of securely defending the nation and thwarting any aggressor.

The Decrees of the Council of People's Commissars of 28 January and 11 February 1918 marked the beginning of the establishing of the Worker-Peasant Red Army [RKKA] and Worker-Peasant Red Navy [RKKF]. The local soviets, the trade unions and the prerevolution soldiers and sailors took part in the extensive discussion of the main principles for the organizational development of the Armed Forces.

23 February 1918 is considered the birthday of the Red Army as this was the day of the active mobilization of the revolutionary forces and the mass upsurge of the people to defend the socialist fatherland as well as the first victories of our armed detachments over the German invaders at Pskov and Narva. The Ground Troops (as at present) comprised the basis of the Army. They consisted of various combat arms (rifle, cavalry, artillery and armored) as well as special troops (engineer, signals, motor vehicle, chemical and other). Literally from the first day of their existence they had to defend the victories of socialism in hard fighting.

In the course of the Civil War, the Ground Troop formations and units gained rich combat experience. They made a decisive contribution to defeating the counterrevolutionary forces in the central regions of the nation and in the steppes of the Ukraine, in the Volga Area and Siberia, on the Don and the Kuban, on the White Sea and in the mountains of the Caucasus, in the sands of Central Asia and in the Far East. The successes of the young Red Army convincingly confirmed Lenin's notions of the invincibility of a people which has taken power into its own hands and of the insurmountable force of a "man with a gun" who is in step with his people and constantly feels their support and concern.

For more than 3 years, the Soviet nation waged a heroic struggle against the White Guards and interventionists. Regardless of the enormous difficulties and hardships, during this time a mass, disciplined army was established and by the autumn of 1920, this had reached 5.5 million men. Some 6 military academies and over 150 courses and schools were able to train 60,000 commanders of various specialties for the army from the workers and peasants.

Military science also developed and it, relying on Lenin's teachings about the defense of the socialist fatherland, utilized the experience and achievements of past military theory as creatively reworked in terms of the new conditions. The first Soviet manuals and regulations were worked out and a unified organization of the units and formations was introduced.

The party directly led the establishing of the Soviet Armed Forces and their heroic fighting on the fronts. V.I. Lenin pointed out that we were able to be victorious because "the Party was on guard, the Party was most strictly disciplined and because Party authority united all the departments and institutions and the slogan set by the Central Committee, was followed to a man by scores, hundreds and ultimately millions...."

The war was over and a peacetime lull arrived. The nation's Armed Forces grew and became stronger as the socialist economy developed. Their organization and establishment were improved, the technical level rose and the theory of military art developed. Here consideration was given to the need to conduct protracted and intense armed combat against a strong enemy drawing on the united efforts of all combat arms. The greatest importance was given to increasing the firepower and strike forces of the Ground Troops, to their maneuverability and mobility, and to educating the personnel in a spirit of combat activeness, decisiveness, boldness and initiative.

The imperialists did not abandon the hope of undermining or eliminating Soviet power. Our army repeatedly dealt a decisive rebuff to armed provocations. The invaders received an object lesson in the area of the Chinese East Railroad in 1929, at Lake Khasan in 1938 and in the Khalkhin-Gol River area in 1939.

But the harshest testing which our motherland ever experienced was the treacherous attack by Nazi Germany, the shock forces of imperialist reaction. Not only our enemies but also many of our friends felt that the USSR would be unable to hold out long against Hitler's armored hordes. However, the Nazi hordes were halted, ground down in hard fighting and thrown into oblivion. And this was not done by the former miracle knights but rather by the simple Soviet people in military greatcoats. The entire nation rose to the party's call for a sacred liberation war. Never, even during the most difficult moments, did our people and their army lose confidence in victory.

The centuries will pass but in the memory of the people, there will remain in perpetuity the names of the Red Star soldiers who committed legendary feats in the defense of the fortress of Brest, the cities of Moscow and Leningrad, Stalingrad and Sevastopol, Odessa and Kiev, Minsk and Novorossiysk, Kerch and Tula, in the battles of the Kursk Salient and on the Dnieper, the Vistula and Oder, in the storming of Berlin and in liberating the European peoples from the Nazi yoke.

At present, monuments and obelisks have been erected on the sites of the former battles. At many of them there is the figure of the infantryman with submachine gun in hand rushing forward in an unrestrained dash. He was remembered in precisely this way by others.

In fighting against the enemy, the infantrymen and tank troops, the artillery troops and cavalrymen, the combat engineers and signal troops showed unprecedented steadfastness, courage, activeness, tenacity and daring, as well as the ability to conduct an extended armed struggle in the most difficult situation. In terms of their moral and fighting qualities, they surpassed the much-praised fighters of the Nazi Army, considered the best in Europe.

The Ground Troops comprised the basic mass of armed forces among the belligerents, a total of 80 percent of the personnel and for us, somewhat higher. And each of the combat arms comprising them in the course of the Great Patriotic War underwent further development. The armored and mechanized troops turned into the main strike force and the most important means of exploiting the offensive to a great depth at a rapid pace. The proportional amount of artillery also rose and this became the main firepower supporting the breakthrough of the deeply echeloned and heavily fortified enemy defenses and the rapid pace of advance of the infantry and tanks. The increasing importance of the motorized infantry and air defenses was clearly apparent. The role of the cavalry, conversely, gradually declined. As for the engineer troops, they became an effective means for supporting the maneuvering of the formations and units involved in battle, for the breaching of enemy defenses, for the crossing of water obstacles and for the organizing of zones and lines.

As a whole, the Soviet troops by the war's end had become much stronger and more mobile. The personnel had become tempered in battle and gained diverse combat experience.

Nazi German and militaristic Japan were subjected to the joint efforts of many peoples. We rightly view the contribution to victory by our Allies in the anti-Hitler coalition, the United States, England and France. Troops of Poland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia and in the final stage of the war Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary, fought against the common enemy. Participants of the Resistance Movement also carried out an unstinting struggle against the Nazis. The peoples of China, Mongolia, Korea, Vietnam and other Asian countries also contributed to the defeat of imperialist Japan.

However, the Soviet Union played the crucial role in defeating Nazi Germany and militaristic Japan. Precisely our people and their army carried the basic burden of the war and precisely they unleashed the most destructive blows against the enemy. And no falsifiers of history, no matter how they might try, will succeed in erasing from the memory of the peoples the great feat carried out during the war years by the world's first socialist country.

More than 4 decades have passed since the time of the last war. During these years our motherland has taken a gigantic step forward. Due to the major advances in the nation's economic development and to the achievements

of Soviet science and technology, the appearance of the Ground Troops has also fundamentally changed. They are now armed with nuclear missiles weapons, new tanks and infantry fighting vehicles, advanced long-range conventional and rocket artillery, anti-aircraft missiles and self-propelled artillery mounts, as well as more advanced means of control. As a result combat capabilities as well as the maneuverability of all the combat arms have risen greatly. Now they are capable of carrying out the most complex battle tasks, no matter how the situation develops. Military art, the theory and practice of training the personnel have undergone further development in terms of the new conditions of conducting combat and an operation.

During the time when imperialism predominated in the world, our party could count on winning only a more or less extended "truce" for the Soviet nation. At present, the establishing of a truly lasting peace in the world has become the aim of its foreign policy. This is due, in the first place, to the increased might and authority of world socialism, to the upsurge in the communist, worker and mass democratic movements, as well as to the successes of the national liberation struggle of peoples. Secondly, to the appearance of enormously destructive weapons. And, as a consequence, there are not only real opportunities but also the immediate necessity of lessening and in the long run completely eliminating the danger of a new world war.

The achieving of a military strategic parity between the United States and the USSR, NATO and the Warsaw Pact was a historic victory for socialism. A maintaining of this equilibrium is an important guarantee for ensuring peace and international security. This is why, as is pointed out in the CPSU Program, the party will make every effort so that the USSR Armed Forces are on a level excluding the superiority of imperialist forces, so that the defense capability of the Soviet state is improved in every possible way, and the combat cooperation of the fraternal socialist armies is strengthened.

In response to the concern of the Communist Party, the Soviet government and the people, the personnel of the Ground Troops are steadily improving their military skill, strengthening discipline and organization, as well as adding to the glorious army traditions in daily training and service, in maneuvers and troop exercises.

In preparing to properly celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces, the men of the Ground Troops have widely initiated a socialist competition to further improve combat skills. And they are keeping the word. They have approached the significant jubilee with high indicators in military service. One out of every three men has become an outstanding man in military and political training. There is an increased number of class specialists, rated athletes and outstanding subunits and units.

Among the best is the Order of Lenin, Red Banner Kantemirovka Guards Tank Division. Established at the outset of the Great Patriotic War, it took an active part in defeating the Nazi invaders at Stalingrad. During the war years, the formation produced 31 Heroes of the Soviet Union. Five of them posthumously were entered in the rolls of its personnel.

Among the military collectives which have repeatedly distinguished themselves in exercises and maneuvers and which have steadily demonstrated high results in political and military training, I would like to mention the units and subunits headed by officers O. Nechiporenko, O. Dzisyak, Yu. Pakhomov and others. One of them is the famous thrice order-bearing guards tank unit which for 2 years running has been the initiator of the socialist competition in the Ground Troops. Last year, the regiment's personnel completely carried out their obligations and achieved the title of outstanding. We can rightly be proud of this collective.

We would like to say a good word for officers O. Avasyan, S. Babukhin, V. Bobrov, V. Gusarov, M. Korkunov, V. Kuzin, M. Mitronov, V. Shatalov, A. Sherstyuk and V. Chukhlev. They not only skillfully train and educate their subordinates, but also serve as an example for them of the flawless execution of military duty, honesty, orderliness and humility.

Our subunits and units in their majority are closely-knit combat collectives and characteristic of their men are good field skills, high physical and moral-psychological tempering, boldness and decisiveness and an unbreakable will for victory.

This said, it does not mean, of course, that in the training of the Ground Troops units and subunits there are no problems and everything is fine. The time demand from us a decisive overcoming of stagnation phenomena in the combat training of the units and subunits and these, unfortunately, are still encountered. The basic inhibition mechanism here is the violating of the planned nature of combat training, the diverting of personnel from exercises and oversimplification in training. In some places the main principle has been violated of teaching the troops what is essential in a war.

The restructuring is an achieving of a new level in the personnel's political and moral state and a further improvement in military discipline. The strength of the army lies in discipline. V.I. Lenin spoke repeatedly about this. And we must constantly remember this. In the military collectives, it is particularly important to get rid of improper relationships, increase the authority of honest military service and decisively overcome the gap between superiors and subordinates.

At present one of the most important tasks for the Ground Troops remains the improving the combat readiness of the formations and units, reducing the time required to bring them to a state of readiness to carry out

diverse battle tasks under difficult conditions. Certainly the aggressive essence of imperialism has not changed. The imperialist circles are building up military potential and are fostering the arms race, in steadily endeavoring to achieve military superiority over the socialist commonwealth countries.

The constant maintaining of high combat readiness is a difficult and diverse task. It involves virtually all aspects in troops activities and is founded upon the profound communist conviction of the men, their total dedication to the cause of the party and people, upon a firm knowledge of the weapons and equipment assigned to them, their skillful use and strong military discipline.

Our party is strengthening the unity of the army and the people. Sponsorship ties, the bonds of fraternal friendship which exist between the military units and the collectives of enterprises, kolkhozes and institutions of learning have a beneficial effect not only on the men. A familiarity with army life and with the successes of our soldiers, sergeants and petty officers, warrant officers, officers and generals in mastering the mighty modern combat equipment engenders in the hearts of millions of the builders of communism an invincible confidence in the fact that our frontiers are strongly locked up and no one at any time will succeed in violating the peaceful, creative labor of the Soviet people.

For 70 years, the Soviet soldier has stood the very honorable combat watch, vigilantly guarding the tranquility of the beloved fatherland, the peace and security of real socialism. He does not hesitate before any enemy. In his hands is a weapon entrusted to him by the people and in his heart the immortal ideas of Lenin's party. He constantly feels the powerful support of our hero people and he has millions of dependable friends.

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Invincible and Legendary

18010355f Baku VYSHKA in Russian 21 Feb 88 p 3

[Article by Lt Gen G.V. Kochkin under "On the 70th Anniversary of the Armed Forces" rubric: "Invincible and Legendary"]

[Text] There are many glorious memorable dates and events in the heroic annals of our Motherland. Among them is the birthday of the Soviet Armed Forces, which are 70 years old on 23 February 1988.

The current celebration is taking place in an atmosphere of abrupt changes in the development of Soviet society. The decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress are being implemented actively and perestroika is gaining speed, having essentially become a direct continuation of the cause and ideas of the Great October.

The armed forces of the Country of Soviets, established for the defense of the achievements of the Great October, were and remain a true and dependable guard of the creative labor of the people and a powerful factor for peace and security in our uneasy nuclear age.

As V.I. Lenin foresaw, the birth of the first socialist state in the world evoked a panicked fear among the deposed classes and international imperialist for their present and future and a fierce hatred toward the new social order. They brought their united military power down on the young Soviet State.

Under these conditions, V.I. Lenin clearly formulated the conclusion about the necessity of defending the revolution. "Any revolution is only worthwhile when it is able to defend itself," he noted.

The historic merit of the great leader of the proletariat is that he, along with the substantiation of this objective necessity, being guided by revolutionary dialectics, also worked out the military program for the proletarian revolution, established the doctrine on the defense of the socialist Fatherland, and revealed the class nature, special features and principles for the building of an army of a new type.

In the extremely difficult conditions of the civil war and the foreign military intervention, the Communist Party led by V.I. Lenin, having no experience and following an unknown path, was able to establish a mass, regular and disciplined army. The Workers and Peasants Red Army and the Workers and Peasants Red Navy, which became stronger, matured and were toughened in the struggle with the enemies of Soviet authority, were established on the basis of the decrees of the Soviet authority on 28 January and 11 February 1918.

With the support of all the working people, the Red Army and Navy destroyed the forces of the white guards and interventionists and defended the achievements of October. The 23rd of February, the day of a very fierce fight between the detachments of the new army and imperialism, went into the history of our Motherland as a national holiday—the Day of the Soviet Army and Navy.

The first heroic steps of the young Red Army were closely linked with the revolutionary struggle of the working people of Azerbaijan, with the establishment of Soviet authority, and with the building of socialism in the Transcaucasus. In the spring of the difficult year 1920, the sailors of the Caspian Military Flotilla and the valiant units of the 11th Red Army came to the aid of the rebellious proletariat of Baku.

In fulfilling the Leninist plan for the building of socialism, the party and the entire Soviet nation did not diminish their vigilance and attention to the defense of the country. A new danger of imperialist invasion was

growing. In this period, the defense industry was developing at an accelerated rate, the army and navy were undergoing technical reequipment, and the training of military personnel and troops was being improved.

Thanks to the wisdom and foresight of the policies of the Communist Party, it was possible to do much to strengthen the country's defense. But it was not possible to implement completely everything that was planned.

The Great Patriotic War was an extremely difficult test for our people and their armed forces. The sudden treacherous attack by German fascism on 22 June 1941 was prepared by the entire international imperialist reaction.

Tremendous forces: 190 divisions, up to 5.5 million men, more than 4,000 tanks and about 5,000 aircraft simultaneously fell upon the borders of the Soviet State. A strong, cruel and perfidious enemy testing its military machine attacked the country.

In the face of the deadly danger, the Communist Party readied the Soviet nation for the Great Patriotic War. It developed and implemented a program for transforming the country into a unified fighting camp and mobilized all forces and means for the utter defeat of the aggressor. The very first months of the war convincingly showed the entire world that the Soviet Armed Forces under the leadership of the Communist Party were capable of enduring very difficult tests.

A decisive event in a most difficult and complex period was the battle for Moscow and the routing of a very large strategic grouping of the enemy. It was the beginning of a fundamental turning point in the war and destroyed the myth of the "invincibility" of the Wehrmacht. Fascist Germany faced the fact of a prolonged campaign on which it had not counted.

The battle for Stalingrad and the battle for the Caucasus had a determining influence on the further course of the entire Second World War. The fight that turned into a test of the power of the two states—socialist and fascist—lasted 6 and a half months. As a result of the fighting, the enemy lost about 1.5 million soldiers and officers here, one-fourth of the fighting forces in action at that time on the Soviet-German front. The main result of the battle for Stalingrad was that the strategic initiative shifted permanently to the side of the Soviet forces.

The war in Europe ended with the signing of an unconditional capitulation by Germany.

It remains undisputed, however, that the Soviet people and their valiant armed forces bore the main burden of the war.

In his report "October and Perestroika: the Revolution Continues," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev stressed: "The aggression that was forced upon us was a pitiless test of

the viability of the socialist order, of the strength of the multinational Soviet state, and of the force of the patriotic spirit of the Soviet people. And we passed this examination by fire and sword...."

The results of the war clearly demonstrated the superiority of the armed forces and of Soviet military science and military skills. The strategic leadership of our country was tops. The talent of the outstanding commanders G.K. Zhukov, K.K. Rokossovskiy, A.M. Vasilevskiy, I.S. Konev and other renowned marshals and generals who came from the depths of the people was fully revealed. A high level of fighting skill and faithfulness to the military cause were typical of the military personnel who commanded formations and units on the battlefields of the war.

But the main burden of the war was borne by the ordinary Soviet soldier, a son of the people and a great worker, who was courageous and loved his Fatherland. More than 7 million Soviet people were awarded orders and medals for courage and heroism in battle and more than 11,500 were awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union. And among them were more than 120 representatives of Soviet Azerbaijan.

The Communist Party, which directed the huge work at the front and in the rear, inspired and organized the victory of the Soviet people and their armed forces. Having become a truly fighting party, it became one with the warring people. By the end of the war, about 60 percent of all communists were in the army and navy. Three million party members perished defending the Fatherland.

In the festivities dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Great October, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev noted: "The war showed that the Soviet people, the party, socialism and October are inseparable and that there are no forces in the world that could shatter this unity."

But the lessons of the past war, the postwar course of development, and the positions of international imperialism confirmed that it is necessary to fight for peace. The active and coordinated functioning of all antiwar and anti-imperialist forces is necessary. The USSR is firmly pursuing this course.

In proceeding from this course and in demonstrating the new political thinking, the 27th CPSU Congress put forward the concept of the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security and formulated its fundamental elements.

The new thinking is not simply a declaration. It is working and has begun to make progress in world affairs. And the first signs are at hand. The results of the visit of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade M.S. Gorbachev to the United States and the signing of the INF Treaty are a convincing confirmation

of this. For the first time in history, an agreement was reached on the elimination of two classes of nuclear arms. This, in essence, is the first step on the way to a nuclear-free world.

In realistically considering the complexity, acuteness and, to a considerable extent, contradictoriness of the contemporary international situation and the unabating aggressiveness of imperialism, the CPSU and Soviet Government are showing tireless concern for the strengthening of the country's defensive capability and the military might of the armed forces. At the same time, the Soviet Union is not striving for superiority; it supports equal, mutual and universal security.

A new confirmation of this policy was the adoption by the USSR and other socialist countries of the historic document "On the Military Doctrine of the Warsaw Pact Member States" in May 1987. The fundamentally new approach of the doctrine consists in its defensive nature and in the fact that it conforms to the "task of not permitting war, nuclear or conventional."

One of the most important features of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact is that it combines the love of peace of the socialist states with their readiness to defend revolutionary achievements. "The entire system of defensive readiness of the Warsaw Pact is set up," notes USSR Minister of Defense Army Gen D.T. Yazov, "so as to stop the aggressor, disrupt his criminal intentions, and, if aggression against any Warsaw Pact member state at the fault of the imperialists becomes a fact, to repel it decisively."

In the current stage, the Soviet Armed Forces are developing in accordance with the positions of the new military doctrine and the peculiarities of the international situation.

Thanks to the constant concern of the CPSU, the achievements of Soviet science, and the heroic labor of the working class, they are equipped with the up-to-date weapons and combat technology constituting the material basis of their fighting power.

But equipment is effective only in the event that it is in the hands of warriors who are ideologically toughened, excellently trained, physically hardy and psychologically steady. Today, as never before, the decisive role in the combat potential of the armed forces belongs to the human factor.

The army and navy are made up of remarkable people. Almost 80 percent of the servicemen serving for a definite time now have a higher or secondary education. The high level of general knowledge, erudition and technical competence make it possible to master up-to-date weapons and equipment quickly and to use them effectively in a combat situation.

The key military personnel—the implementers of party policy, bearers of the best traditions, and organizers of the training and education of subordinates—are a reliable foundation of the army and navy and the object of the continuous concern of the CPSU. About 70 percent of officers have a higher military or special military education and more than 90 percent are communists and Komsomol members.

Responding to the concern of the party and people, Soviet warriors, educated in a spirit of loyalty to their patriotic and international duty, are persistently improving their combat training and serving with vigilance. They are continuing the traditions of the older generations, heroes of the civil and Great Patriotic wars, in a worthy manner. Dozens of soldiers were awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union for their military actions, including feats in Afghanistan, and thousands were awarded orders and medals.

An extremely important feature characterizing the contemporary Armed Forces of the USSR is the further strengthening of their unity with the people. In resolving the critical tasks in the defense of the country, they actively participate in creative activities. Without sparing their efforts and even their very lives, the warriors are the first to come to the aid of the local population in natural disasters. That is how it was in Chernobyl and that is how it was in Georgia, where Pvt R. Mamedov saved 26 peaceful inhabitants during a flood at the cost of his own life.

The armed forces are celebrating their 70th anniversary under the conditions of deepening perestroika, the spirit of which has imbued the entire life of the army and navy.

The style and methods of the work are being renewed in the administrative and political authorities and party organizations and an atmosphere of independence and responsibility is being affirmed. Habitual stereotyped thinking that has become set over the years is being broken down. Accents are shifting in the forms and methods of party-political work. The individual with his concerns, joys, complexities and needs is being made the focus of this work.

The socialist competition that developed in the army and navy under the motto "Self-sacrificing Military Labor, Exemplary Service and the Highest Discipline—Our Contribution to the Defense of the Motherland" helps in the achievement of a new qualitative state of combat training.

The preparations for the 19th All-Union Party Conference are becoming a most important stimulus in the activation of party organizations and every communist. The report and election and report-back meetings held in the primary party organizations and the meetings of the party aktiv on the course and first results of perestroika gave a powerful impulse to the improvement of the activity of key military personnel.

The political organizers and party organizations are utilizing the preparations for the anniversary of the armed forces for the education of personnel in revolutionary, fighting and labor traditions. The entire arsenal of forms of political work is being used to give soldiers an in-depth understanding of the strategic course of the party, loyalty to their military duty, and a class approach to the assessment of present-day events.

In the final analysis, all of this helps in the high-quality and very responsible resolution of the combat-training tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee and the minister of defense of the USSR for personnel in this academic year.

For seven decades, our armed forces have been standing guard over the socialist Fatherland. Their glorious path is marked by heroic victories. The legendary past, present-day invincible might, and permanent readiness—in all of this is the Communist Party's inseparable and wise guidance of Soviet military development.

In a vow to the participants in the triumphant meeting dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Great October, the warriors of the armed forces affirmed their willingness always to be on the alert: "We remember well the lessons of the past and the Soviet people can be assured that the combat readiness of their armed forces is being maintained at a level adequate for a crushing repulse of the aggressor."

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'Born Through the Revolution'

18010355e Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA
in Russian 23 Feb 88 p 3

[Article by Col Gen A. Kovtunov, commander of the Central Asian Military District: "Born Through the Revolution"; first paragraph is KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA introduction]

[text] The rise and development of the Soviet Armed Forces, the 70th anniversary of which we are celebrating, are inseparably linked with the heroic history of our Fatherland. The Soviet people will always remember the deeds of the legendary heroes of the civil and Great Patriotic wars. They were severe tests of courage and social maturity.

The Great Patriotic War, the most difficult and cruelest of wars, showed all of humanity the tremendous force and invincibility of the first workers and peasants state in the world. The national feat lasted 1,480 days. The Soviet people demonstrated examples of steadfastness and valor in the battle with the enemy. The title Hero of the Soviet Union was awarded to 11,603 of them, including twice to 104. The renowned air aces I.N. Kozhedub and A.I. Pokryshkin were awarded this title three times and Marshal of the Soviet Union G.K.

Zhukov received it four times. More than 7 million people were awarded orders and medals for courage and bravery demonstrated in the fight with the fascist invaders.

Four of five communists served in the troops or in defense enterprises during the war years.

The sons and daughters of Soviet Kazakhstan fought courageously at the front. More than 500 of them were given the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. This high title was awarded twice to T. Begeldinov, S. Luganskiy, I. Pavlov and L. Beda. The names of Manshuk Mametova and of the fliers N. Abdirov and M. Yanko, who repeated the feat of Capt N. Gastello, are legendary. S. Baymagambetov, I. Babi and A. Sukhambayev covered the embrasures of enemy bunkers with their chests.

These are meager facts and figures. They cannot fully reflect all that our people and army experienced or the glorious heroic path that they took. Today's defenders of the great achievements of October, the warriors of our Red Banner Central Asian Military District, among others, are continuing this path in a worthy manner. Among them are Maj S. Ushurov, captains R. Batyrov and P. Vlasov, Ensign V. Chuchkin and others. By the way, all of the mentioned comrades have high state decorations for their military labor. Today, thanks to the continuous fatherly concern of the Communist Party about the armed forces, we have everything necessary for the dependable defense of the Motherland, including up-to-date military equipment and powerful formidable weapons. And, the main thing, we have well-trained and loyal people who are prepared to solve any difficult tasks.

The motorized riflemen of the guard unit that until recently was commanded by Lt Col A. Kosyakov have repeatedly demonstrated precisely such a willingness in field exercises and training. I.M. Tretyak, now general of the army, Hero of the Soviet Union, and honorable soldier, was also commander of this unit. The unit is an initiator of socialist competition. It was recognized the best in the district according to the results of the last academic year. The list of such examples of high responsibility for the assigned task can be continued. It can be said without exaggeration that this characteristic is typical of most military subunits.

And still another detail of considerable importance. There are warriors of different nationalities serving in every platoon, regiment and battalion. The training and duties are not equally easy for all of them. All sorts of difficulties are encountered, even such difficulties as a poor command of the Russian language. Here is where true soldierly friendship and mutual assistance are demonstrated. In the classroom and in the field, in the military equipment pool and on watch, everywhere experienced and excellent specialists stand by young soldiers. Along with political officers and activists, they get the beginners on their feet in a short time. But today we

cannot remain silent about what is troubling us either. We are ashamed of those young people who do not know and sometimes do not want to know our history. One can see the incomplete work of those who must prepare youths for service in the army: the family, school, VUZ and labor collective. It is essential to expand and deepen the sponsorship ties linking warriors with local party and Komsomol authorities, plants, factories and educational institutions and to do everything possible to improve military-patriotic work.

Nor should the military commissariats stand apart from this important work. Some of them have already organized councils of internationalist soldiers and are skillfully utilizing other forms of military-patriotic education. Nevertheless, we would like to see our warriors in schools, vocational and technical schools, tekhnikums and institutes more often. I speak of this because our army has always needed strong and comprehensively trained people, upon whom depends the success of any task. For the individual was and remains the main force in battle.

The situation in the world is such that we must continuously strengthen the might of our army and increase combat readiness. This is why the military-patriotic training of young people and their qualitative preparation for service must be the most important direction in raising the defensive capability. For it is no secret that some young people are incapable of enduring the objective difficulties in the army. The army collectives are also getting youths who "in civilian life" became addicted to drunkenness and admire everything Western. These kids practically have to be educated again. All of us—family and school, plant and DOSAAF, party and Komsomol organizations are responsible for those who tomorrow will join us as soldiers.

More attention must be paid to the beginning military training, to the traditional games "Zarnitsa" [heat lighting] and "Orlenok" [eaglet]. We have good words for our veterans of war and labor, who are giving a lot of time to the education of youths. All of this is very good and very necessary. Unfortunately, there are still measures intended for "dates" and "anniversaries" and sometimes just to make a "check mark" in a regular report. Formalism must never replace active work. There are many former soldiers and reserve sergeants in the republic who went through the severe tests of Afghanistan with honor. They are the best reserves in military-patriotic work.

The armed forces of our district are in permanent combat readiness. Our military labor is linked with the realization of the party decisions on perestroika. This is a growing process in army collectives, as it is in the country as a whole. A more profound comprehension of party documents has taken place in the consciousness of most commanders, political officers, party and Komsomol activists, and warriors serving for a definite time. The district has many such military collectives, where

the new moral and psychological atmosphere has asserted itself. It is already yielding results. Combat training has become better with improved quality and educational work is more effective. The principle of social fairness is being affirmed in the district and they have begun to do a better job of resolving questions in the everyday life and leisure time of servicemen. But here I want to note that constant attention must be paid to educational work with people. One must not be satisfied with what has been achieved. If efforts slack off just a little in any section, the results will suffer immediately. This demand also relates to international education.

"The Soviet Army and Navy have up-to-date arms and equipment as well as well-trained soldiers and command and political personnel who are prepared and unreservedly devoted to the nation. They are performing their duty in a worthy manner in the most difficult and sometimes severe situation." This was the high assessment given to the armed forces at the 27th CPSU Congress. In the future as well, we will do everything that we can to carry out the decisions of the party successfully and will celebrate the 19th All-Union Party Conference through honorable service and strong military discipline.

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Rear Services: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow
18010355b Moscow TYL VOORUZHENNYKH SIL in Russian No 2, Feb 88, pp 6-10

[Article by Col Gen I. Golushko, chief of staff of the Rear Services of the Armed Forces of the USSR, doctor of military sciences and professor, under "Guarding the Achievements of Socialism" rubric: "Rear Services: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"]

[Text] Exactly 70 years separate us from the historic days of February 1918 that announced the birth of the army of workers and peasants. The Soviet Armed Forces have taken a glorious heroic path since that time. They wrote many brilliant pages in the annals of the socialist Fatherland.

The Rear Services of the Armed Forces made a worthy contribution to the defense of the achievements of October. Dependably linking the country's economy with the front, it provided the army and navy with everything necessary for the routing of the imperialist aggressors and the protection of the peaceful labor of the Soviet people.

V.I. Lenin and the Communist Party were at the source of the rise and development of the rear services of the new type of army. In developing the doctrine on the defense of the socialist Fatherland and the principles of the formation of the Red Army, Vladimir Ilyich profoundly revealed the primary importance of the material

factor in war and founded the basic directions of economy policy that ensured the concentration of all forces and means in the interests of defense.

The directive of the leader of the proletarian revolution that "for the waging of warfare properly it is necessary to have strong and organized rear services" was made the basis of the practical work of the party in the improvement of the supply system for the army and navy. In the civil war years, the Bolsheviks undertook energetic and effective measures to put the economy of the young republic on the military track and to establish the best structure of the rear authorities.

Under the conditions of the economic destruction and economic blockade, only the maximum centralization in the procuring and consumption of resources as well as in the utilization of transport could guarantee the high fighting capacity of the armed forces. Taking this into account, as early as 1918, the Council of People's Commissars constituted the Extraordinary Commission for the Production of the Objects of Military Equipment (subsequently the Extraordinary Commission for the Supply of the Red Army), which in a short time was able to organize in the plants and factories the uninterrupted output of arms, war materials, uniforms, ammunition and other property.

The decree of the All-Russian Executive Committee in July 1919 establishes the office of the Extraordinary Plenipotentiary Defense Council for the supply of the army and navy, to which all authorities in charge of matters involving material security were subordinate—from the center to the individual military unit. Such a structure made it possible to concentrate the existing material resources in the same hands and, despite the difficult economic situation in the country, to organize the systematic supply of the troops.

In addition to the improvement of the system for the support of the Red Army, considerable attention was paid to the training of rear personnel. In March 1918, the decision is made on the reorganization of the Quartermaster's Academy and its renaming as the Military Economic Academy, where before long the instruction of specialists begins in accelerated courses. In that same year, the faculty for military communications of the Military Engineering Academy opens and the Higher Naval Financial and Economic School is established.

Having established the concern about the supply of the army and navy among the tasks of primary importance and having strengthened it with systematic organizational efforts, the party of the Bolsheviks was able to prepare a dependable material base for the utter defeat of the White Guards and interventionists and to establish the strong rear services that ensured the victory of the Red Army in the bloody battles with the enemies of the socialist Fatherland.

Having ended the civil war, the young Republic of the Soviets began the peaceful building of socialism. In the course of the military reform carried out in the years 1924-1925, the previously existing system for troop supply underwent substantial changes. It was necessary to direct a substantial part of the resources intended to satisfy the needs of the army and navy to the restoration of the ruined economy. In this connection, along with centralized support, it was recognized to be advisable to make broader use of local resources and to lower the cost of supply substantially through reduced expenditures for the procurement, storage and transport of material means.

Having restored the national economy, the party and government took the decisive course of industrialization. In record short time, a powerful military-economic base was established in the country that made it possible to supply the army and navy with the latest models of fighting technology and arms. The reequipment of the troops necessitated the production of new types of military property—aircraft, armored vehicles, engineering equipment, and motor vehicles and tractors, which, in turn, required the establishment of the corresponding supply services. The reorganization of the rear services was also dictated by increased maneuverability of the units and formations and the greater requirements of the Red Army for material resources.

In the mid-1930's, some fundamental changes were made in this connection in the troop supply system. It began to be implemented according to the scheme: center-district-division-regiment-company-Red Army soldier. They organized a Fuel Supply Administration in the center and sections for the supply of fuel in the military districts. And a motor vehicle and roads service separated from the military communications service.

On the eve of the Great Patriotic War, the party worked out and implemented a number of supplemental measures to improve troop supply and to restructure the country's material base in the interests of the provision of rear services to the army and navy.

Unfortunately, it was not possible to complete all that was planned. To repel the treacherous attack by fascist Germany, the Soviet people had to undertake gigantic efforts to put the economy on a wartime track.

Guided by the party, the country was able not only to catch up to but also to surpass fascist Germany and its satellites significantly in the production of military output. There was still a problem, however, not only in having an adequate quantity of diverse material resources but also in fully providing the troops with them in a timely manner. The resolution of this task was seriously delayed by shortcomings in the supply system as well as in the structure and administration of the rear authorities that developed before the war.

Taking this into account, the State Defense Committee made the decision to reorganize them. On 1 August 1941, the Main Administration for Red Army Rear Services was formed. In each front and army, corresponding administrations were organized under a chief who was also deputy commander of rear services. They were assigned tasks in the organization and administration of the rear and in transport and supply.

The rear passed the severe wartime tests with honor. In overcoming immense difficulties, its units and institutions continuously provided the troops with everything necessary. Here are just a few figures indicating the scope of this grandiose work. In the years of the war, rear authorities delivered to the formations and units 40 million tons of food, 16 million tons of fuel and lubricants, 10 million tons of ammunition, 38 million overcoats, and 64 million pair of footwear.

Military medical people demonstrated courage, self-sacrifice and professional skill. They made an enormous contribution to the victory, returning 72.3 percent of the wounded and 90.6 percent of the sick to action.

Specialists of the fuel service as well as of the food, roads, equipment and veterinary services and workers in military trade also contributed much labor to the establishment of a strong rear and to the organization of the complete provision of the troops in battles and operations.

After the end of the Great Patriotic War, qualitative changes took place in all areas of physical production as a result of the rapid development of the economy, science, technology and culture. This made it possible to reequip the army and navy with fundamentally new weapons for the armed struggle, including nuclear missiles, and to carry out a real revolution in military science.

In connection with the establishment of new forms of armed forces and the increased demands on the combat readiness of the troops, the rear services also began to improve as required. In the postwar years, the authorities of the combined-arms rear services became fully mobile, maneuverable and capable of guaranteeing the prolonged autonomy of the actions of combat units and subunits.

The rear area of the Air Defense Forces was further developed. In addition to its traditional functions, it also acquired such new ones as the provision of the forces with missiles, materials and special systems necessary for the utilization of missile weapons in combat. The role of the rear services of the Air Forces increased immeasurably. The preparation of airfields, the storage and transport of military supplies, including missiles, and long-distance maneuvering to guarantee flights at reserve airfields—this is by no means a complete enumeration of the tasks being resolved by the units and subunits of the rear services of the Air Forces.

The organizational structure and principles of the work of the rear services of the navy changed significantly. In connection with the emergence of warships into the oceans of the world, they took the course of establishing forces capable, directly at sea and far from coastal bases, of providing them with the material resources for prolonged autonomous navigation.

For the rear area as a whole, the most characteristic direction of development after the war was a decisive increase in the energy ratio and survivability of its elements and in their capacity for the quality performance of the set tasks under the conditions of massive losses and destruction, increased material volumes and other requirements.

In the 1970's, when the appearance of new types of weapons and equipment required the development and application of new means and methods of equipping and servicing the troops and forces, a period of restructuring the rear services began in the direction of greater specialization. In the last decade, along with this, the agenda included another and even more critical task, the fundamental reorganization of the structure of rear authorities, for it had become obvious that under today's conditions it is necessary to be concerned not only with the quantitative but also with the qualitative side of development.

To achieve this objective, theoretical and practical investigations and approaches that are not traditional for the rear were necessary. Basic among them was the combined-arms principle verified by the experience of the past war and the entire course of the subsequent development of the armed forces. Being based on the centralization of the administration of the fighting forces and systems in combination with the constant development and improvement of the specialization of the different rear authorities, it makes it possible to resolve the large-scale tasks in successfully providing for the fighting formations and units with the least effort and in the shortest time.

A practical embodiment of this principle was the establishment of complex and multipurpose rear units and institutions, which, in connection with the significantly increased requirements of the troops (forces) for material and other resources to carry out military actions, most nearly meet present-day demands.

Today it is also necessary to bear in mind the necessity of rethinking the theory and practice of providing for the rear evoked by the new defensive strategy for the Soviet State adopted by the CPSU Central Committee. It is quite obvious that the associated restructuring of the bases for the training of the armed forces will doubtless lead to changes in the work of the rear services in peacetime as well as wartime. In other words, tomorrow the rear services will clearly differ substantially from today.

It is still difficult to say unequivocally what this "tomorrow" will probably be like. In forecasting the coming changes, however, it appears that it is nevertheless possible to assert that it is necessary to be oriented primarily toward the introduction of new technologies and other achievements, the appearance of which will be predetermined by the rapid development of science and technology.

Where will they mainly be applied? Let us take, for example, the problem of administration. A major improvement in its efficiency is possible only under the maximum approximation of the human and technical factors. It will be possible to achieve this only with the help of a new breakthrough in the automation of control processes and the resolution of the problem of direct dialogue between man and machine.

The rear authorities are actively introducing computerization, which in the coming years must encompass all areas of administration with the purpose of completely revising the system of orders, accounting, transport planning, and so on. This, in turn, will clearly bring with it a restructuring of some organizational structures. It is a matter of its improvement under the modular principle in such a way that in different links it would be possible depending upon the situation to increase the efforts of the rear services through the operational "turning on" and "turning off" of similar forces and systems in the subunits, technical multipurpose systems and technological processes.

In the near future, there will doubtless be a continuation of research on the establishment of more dependable conditions for the long-term autonomous provision of the forces with rear authorities. In all probability, it will be pursued along the lines of reducing the volume of material requirements. Within a short time, clearly, the quantitative "boom" in the consumption and accumulation of stocks will diminish. The preconditions for this are obvious in connection with the rapid development of the latest forms of physiochemical materials, the application of which will make it possible to reduce noticeably the volume and mass of material resources used by the troops.

The reduction of the volumes and shortening of the temporal indicators in the processes of troop support will also take place through the improvement of the transport system. The time is not far off when, along with up-to-date, rather capacious, high-speed and efficient ground, air and sea transport, applications will also be found for completely new means of transport, which, as is generally believed, will fundamentally change the structure of the system of rear services.

Substantial changes are also expected in the organization of technical support. The introduction of multipurpose powder and aggregated technologies will significantly lengthen the operating times of arms and equipment and will accelerate the process of their restoration.

Today it is possible to speak of specific innovations that will appear in the organization of the medical support of personnel and in medical practice in particular. Here, as before, scientific and practical efforts will be concentrated in the main direction, that of improving the prevention of disease and the treatment of patients, resistance and provision of the dependable protection of the human organism against the existing arsenal of destruction.

Great changes will also take place in the social welfare of the armed forces. The course taken by the party of restructuring the country's economy, the extensive introduction of the achievements of scientific-technical progress, and the encouragement of economic initiative and independence locally will doubtless have a favorable effect on the well-being of the Soviet people, including army and navy warriors.

From the heights of the 70th anniversary of the armed forces, one can clearly see the achievements of the rear services in strengthening the fighting capability of the army and navy and in satisfying the needs and requirements of soldiers. At the same time, mistakes and shortcomings are more apparent than before. And not only those of past years. Many acute problems are still awaiting their resolution and many unutilized reserves have not yet been put into action. This is why, in celebrating the glorious anniversary, the soldiers of the rear are even more insistently mobilizing their strengths for the improvement of their professional skills and the mastery of new methods and means of providing rear services to the troops.

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Defensive Direction of Soviet Military Doctrine
18010355 Moscow MORSKOY SBORNIK in Russian
No 6 Feb 88 pp 8-13

[Article by Rear Adm V. Gulin, doctor of philosophical sciences and professor, and Capt 2nd Rank I. Kondyrev, doctor of philosophical sciences and professor, under "Implementing the Decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress" rubric: "Defensive Direction of Soviet Military Doctrine"]

[Text] In connection with the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, many questions relating to the history of the formation and development of the armed forces and military policy of our state, including the question of contemporary military doctrine, are evoking increased interest.

The documents of the 27th CPSU Congress emphasize that the realities of the nuclear and space age require a new political thinking, the essence of which is in the very great responsibility for the fate of world civilization and the exclusion of wars and the politics of force from

relations between countries and peoples. On the basis of the thoroughly well-founded conclusions on war and peace and in complete conformity with the peace-loving foreign policy of the USSR, the congress formulated the fundamental positions of contemporary Soviet military doctrine, which were further developed in the report of M.S. Gorbachev at the solemn meeting dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the Great October, "October and Perestroika: the Revolution Continues," and other party documents.

By military doctrine, one understands the system of views adopted in the state for a given (specific) time on the essence, objectives and nature of a possible future war, on preparing the country and armed forces for it, and on the means of waging it. [Footnote 1] Military doctrine is traditionally considered to be a national and state category inasmuch as the military aims and views of a particular country are concentrated in it. In our time, moreover, when on the basis of common military views and actions there are military organizations of similar states, one can speak of doctrines of military alliances of states along with the doctrines of each of their participants. Proceeding from the coalition nature of the existing military confrontation and from the fact that the defense of socialism and peace is the international obligation of the socialist community, the 27th CPSU Congress put forward important doctrinal positions linked with the action of the Soviet Union in the further development of the military and political alliance of the fraternal countries of socialism.

At the conference of the Political Consultative Committee in May 1987, the Warsaw Pact member states stated the "fundamental positions of their military doctrine, which is the basis of the action of the Warsaw Pact and reflects the common character of the defensive military and political objectives of its member states and of their national military doctrines." [Footnote 2]

In reflecting the economic and political interests of the ruling class, military doctrine always has a class character. It has two interrelated sides: political and military-technical. The political side includes questions relating to political objectives and the nature of war and their influence on the development of the armed forces and on the country's preparation for war. The military-technical side in accordance with political positions includes questions involving means of waging war, military development, the technical equipment of the troops and naval forces, and their maintenance in a state of combat readiness. The interrelationship between the political and military-technical sides is diverse and indissoluble.

In addition, every military doctrine also has moral and legal characteristics. It morally and juridically substantiates the political objectives of war and the preparation for it in accordance with the standards of morality and law prevalent in the state. Thus, the criminal objectives of the wars unleashed by imperialism also lead to the utilization of extremely brutal means to achieve them.

The most reactionary military doctrine is that of the United States. Today its core is the strategy of "direct opposition." Its political basis is the idea of the affirmation of the world hegemony of the United States. Its objective is the restoration of the leading role of the United States in the world and the destruction of socialism as a social and political system. As for its military-technical side, it foresees the waging of war both nuclear and conventional, general and limited, prolonged and brief. The intention is to be the first to use nuclear weapons and to achieve victory in modern warfare. The Pentagon document "Directives for the Development of the U.S. Armed Forces" notes: "The United States must get the upper hand and have the possibility of forcing the USSR to cease military actions in a short time under the conditions of the United States." [Footnote 3]

An extremely important position of the American doctrine is the aim of achieving the military superiority of the United States over the USSR and of NATO over the Warsaw Pact. In recent years, these hopes have been linked with the implementation of the SDI program.

The open tendency of U.S. military doctrine toward coercion in the nuclear age and toward strength in international relations permeates the new U.S. naval strategy set forth in the report of Adm J. Watkins [Footnote 4], where the navy is given the task of being a means to achieve international dominance in peacetime and to ensure victorious actions in a war against the USSR. This conceptual aim arrogantly formulates the ambitious objective and modes of action of the American Naval Forces from a position of naval strength. The report is full of such expressions as "be victorious in a crisis," "do not concede to the Russians a single region where we are not present and deprive them of the possibility of having their way in determining the nature of military actions," and "block" the Soviet Navy in its bases and coastal seas.

In contrast to the military doctrines of the imperialist states, Soviet military doctrine, just as in other socialist states, is called upon to serve in guaranteeing peace among peoples and states and is responsive and forced in nature. Its existence and maintenance flow from the objective necessity of defending the socialist Fatherland and are dictated by the danger of imperialism unleashing wars and military conflicts against socialism.

A most important feature of the military doctrine of the USSR is its true scientific nature, open "party-mindedness," and creative and innovative character dictated by the development of its object and by the rise of new tasks in the work of the party and nation in defense of socialism. Its development is one of the basic elements of the party's guidance of the defense of the socialist Fatherland. "Under the leading role of the party," notes the CPSU Program, "a policy in the area of the defense

and security of the country and a Soviet military doctrine with an exceptionally defensive nature and an orientation toward defense against an external attack are being elaborated and implemented." [Footnote 5]

The 27th CPSU Congress marked a new stage in the creative development of Soviet military doctrine. Its documents singled out above all its fundamental position—its exceptionally defensive orientation covering both the political as well as the military-technical aspects. In this connection, the question may arise: And what is new about this? For our doctrine was always defensive. Yes, that is so. But the very content of this "defensive orientation" differs substantially from what we had in the past. Previously the defensive tendency of the doctrine was manifested in such a relationship of the forces of peace and war in which war was inevitable and was an effective policy instrument, a means of achieving political objectives. Under those conditions, the Soviet doctrine had one basic task and one function—to give the aggressor the proper rebuff in the event of an attack.

Conditions have now changed. Its contemporary defensive nature is founded on the main premise of the new political thinking, the renunciation of wars and a policy of force in the rocket and space age, and on the conclusion that the world community is one and interrelated, that the opposition of capitalism and socialism in the international arena can take place exclusively in the forms of peaceful competition and peaceful cooperation. In this situation, along with the orientation toward the decisive repulsion of aggression, the function of preventing an all-destructive war arose and became dominant. "The military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact, as of each of its members," note the documents of the conference of the Political Consultative Committee, "is subordinate to the task of not allowing war, be it nuclear or conventional." [Footnote 6]

In this way, today the social purpose of Soviet military doctrine amounts primarily to the blocking of aggression and the guaranteeing of peace. Its antimilitary direction is also reflected in its contemporary definition and in all basic components. "Our military doctrine," writes USSR Minister of Defense Army Gen D.T. Yazov, "represents a system of basic views on the prevention of war, on military development, and on the preparation of their countries and their armed forces to repel aggression as well as means of waging armed battle in defense of socialism." [Footnote 7]

The essence of the new philosophy of security in the nuclear and space era is formulated in the doctrine. The concept of security put forward by the 27th Congress denies the traditional approach of linking it merely with the establishment of a powerful defense and with the capability of defending the country by military means. Under today's conditions, political means and agreements taking into account the interests of the sides with the purpose of stopping the arms race are becoming the most reliable means of guaranteeing security.

In defending political means and rejecting military means of resolving disputes and in contrasting the force of policy to the policy of force, the Soviet doctrine cannot fail to consider the fact that in its relations with imperialism socialist policy must rely on the necessary social, including defensive, power. The 70 years of historical experience of our country teach this.

The Soviet Union does not want more security for itself but it will never agree to less. It is proceeding from its equality and identity. "Security," notes M.S. Gorbachev, "can be equal only. Attempts to outwit each other and to attain superiority are fraught with serious consequences. This is inadmissible." [Footnote 8] Over a number of decades, Soviet military doctrine was forced to proceed, using contemporary terminology, from less security for the country. The situation has now changed fundamentally. Equal and identical security makes it possible for one to orient himself more certainly and with hope for success in preventing a nuclear catastrophe and to realize the defensive essence of our military doctrine.

According to our concept, security must be universal and not limited to the relations between the USSR and the United States, as important as they may be. The greatest political wisdom is in guaranteeing security for all peoples, because fears and anxieties in the nuclear and space age give rise to unpredictability in politics. The time factor is becoming especially significant, because with the appearance of new systems of weapons of mass destruction time is inexorably reduced and the possibilities for making political decisions on questions of war and peace in the event of crises are narrowed.

The Soviet concept of security is also all-encompassing from the point of view of social spheres of security. Now, when the socialist ideals on peace coincide with common human interests for the preservation of civilization, the restraining power of socialist armies appears not only as a factor ensuring peaceful conditions for the development of the countries of socialism but also as a guarantee of international peace and stability.

Also among the new positions of the military doctrine of the USSR is the conclusion on military strategic parity as a means of preventing war and as a serious factor for the peace and security of peoples. The party worked out the aim of military strategic parity that is in the course of the new political thinking, the essence of which amounts to the unfailing preservation and support of equality and to the nonadmission of any sort of noticeable violation of it.

At the present time, at the fault of imperialism, the stabilization of the situation in the world is being maintained at a very high level of arms. The continuation of the arms race may bring the matter to the dangerous point where it will get out of control and will cease depending upon the position of politicians with all possible fatal consequences. Taking this into account, the 27th CPSU Congress came to the conclusion that

with the continuation of the arms race and with time military strategic parity will not be able to carry out the function of deterrence. This is why the USSR and other countries of the socialist community favor the lowering of the existing level of parity under the conditions of the presence and reduction of nuclear weapons to the limits of reasonable sufficiency.

The defensive nature of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact countries is also manifested in the obligation proclaimed to the entire world never under any circumstances to start a war, nuclear or conventional, against any state, whether it be in Europe or another region of the world, if they themselves are not the object of attack.

Such an orientation is being realized through an entire system of proposals by the USSR for the prevention of the military danger and measures of good will in this direction. Precisely because of the constructive position of the Soviet leadership and the newness of its approaches to the resolution of problems vitally important to mankind, some first successes were achieved in disarmament, as evidenced by the treaty between the USSR and the United States on the elimination of medium and shorter-range missiles as well as by the negotiations to reduce strategic nuclear weapons by 50 percent. The Soviet proposals and initiatives to reduce all types and systems of weapons, both of mass destruction and conventional, are well known.

In stressing the defensive function of our doctrine, it is impossible to underestimate another function included in it in a dialectical unity—that of a high level of readiness for the repelling of aggression. It must answer vitally important questions about the essence and nature of a possible war that may be unleashed against the Soviet Union by imperialism and about the methods of the armed struggle in defense of socialism.

The methodological basis of the scientific analysis of the problems of contemporary war is the Leninist definition of its essence. "As applied to wars," V.I. Lenin pointed out, the basic position of dialectics is that "war is merely a continuation of politics by other (precisely violent) means." [Footnote 9] To understand war, it is necessary, V.I. Lenin taught, "to determine its political content in each specific case and for each war separately." [Footnote 10] This position retains its fundamental meaning for today and gives a clear answer to the question of where the threat to peace is coming from. The 27th Congress specified the address of the main source of aggression—U.S. imperialism. Time confirms convincingly that the real concentration of evil on our planet is the military-industrial complex, which includes monopolies producing weapons, the high commanding officers associated with them, the state bureaucracy, the ideological complex and militarized science. And if these forces, against all that is reasonable and sensible, nevertheless decided to unleash a world war, it would certainly be a continuation of their senseless adventuristic policies.

Methodologically, however, one should not confuse the question of war as a product and continuation of politics and as a rational and admissible means of realizing political objectives in the present day. Remaining in its origin and nature a continuation of politics, war with nuclear missiles has ceased to be a means of achieving political goals and has become suicidal even from the point of view of the general class interests of the bourgeoisie. It reached its historical limit, has become outdated historically, and can no longer be viewed as a tool of politics. "Nuclear war," stressed M.S. Gorbachev, "cannot be a means of achieving political, economic, ideological or any other goals at all." [Footnote 11]

In connection with the growing military danger, a very acute question is that of the means of unleashing a possible war by imperialism and the means of repelling aggression. Our doctrine cannot fail to consider the fact that imperialism is preparing above all a war with nuclear missiles and is developing different versions for its unleashing. "...It is no secret," notes the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee, "that there are scenarios for a nuclear attack against us. We have no right not to take them into account." [Footnote 12] At the same time, U.S. and NATO strategists, understanding the consequences of a counterstrike by the victim of aggression and being forced to take into account the peace-loving policies of the USSR, have recently been leaning in their doctrine toward preparing for a world war through conventional weapons. The main emphasis is being put on its sudden start, on the anticipatory actions of the strategic forces, and on the simultaneous waging of large-scale offensive operations with decisive objectives.

It is well known that suddenness of attack has always been one of the effective instruments in the hands of an aggressor. Certainly it was and remains a factor with a temporary effect but its influence on the course and outcome of war under today's conditions has increased immeasurably. The possibilities of a treacherous attack have increased substantially and the arsenal of means and ways to carry it out has expanded. War can be unleashed in new forms and a surprise attack can be carried out without the advance deployment of forces along borders. In his speech in Murmansk, M.S. Gorbachev convincingly exposed the threatening nature of the aggressiveness of imperialism through the example of Washington's "polar" strategy. [Footnote 13] This obligates our armed forces to maintain the greatest vigilance and to be in a state of full readiness to repel imperialist aggression.

Our military doctrine is proceeding from the assumption that the main mode of action of the Soviet Armed Forces will be defensive operations with subsequent offensive actions aimed at routing the enemy. "The main thing in the preparation of our troops and naval forces today," stresses Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromyev, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces and first

deputy minister of defense of the USSR, "is their reciprocal defensive actions in repelling enemy aggression. They are trained to carry out military actions to rout the aggressor actively and decisively." [Footnote 14]

Among the fundamental positions of military doctrine is the question of victory in war. The 27th CPSU Congress pointed out that from the position of the new political thinking it is essential to arrive at an understanding not only of modern war but also of victory in it. It is a matter of the victory of reason and the forces of peace over the forces of war. There can be no victor in a nuclear war. At the same time, it seems to us, it would be incorrect to view the category "victory" as applied to every war of the modern epoch, in particular local war, unequivocally and only in its fatal aspect. Victory in war is always a complex social phenomenon that includes the military as well as the social and political sides. The social and political content amounts to social changes as a result of the conclusion of the armed fight. In conventional war, the victorious side extracts certain territorial, economic and political advantages, whereas the defeated side loses them. This leads to a new balance of power and to changes in the fate of states and peoples.

Whereas in the past the admissibility and inevitability of victory as an aspect of social development related to any war, a different approach is now necessary. The traditional concept of victory from the social and political point of view is quite unacceptable for contemporary world war and global nuclear conflict, since both sides would be affected by catastrophic consequences of the armed conflict that could mean the end of civilization. The conclusion of the congress on the impossibility of winning a nuclear war appears as a stern warning to imperialism, which is counting on resolving the dispute with socialism to its own advantage through military means.

From the military point of view, victory is "success in battle, the inflicting of defeat on the enemy's troops, and the achievement of objectives set for the battle, operation or war as a whole." [Footnote 15] The military content relates to the successful conclusion of the armed coercion of one of the sides, as a result of which the armed forces of the other warring side are utterly defeated, that is, put in a state where they can no longer continue the fight. It seems, depending upon the scale of the armed fight, that one can speak of the routing of the enemy's troops (forces) or of victory in combat, battle or an operation. The destructive possibilities of today's weapons and the means of utilizing them greatly change, of course, the nature of armed struggle. In war, especially nuclear war, if imperialist aggressors unleash it, the antagonism of the sides will, in comparison with past wars, be directed at mutual defeat and destruction. In our opinion, nevertheless, the military side of victory is not taken away at all of its levels. Therefore, the duty and obligation of all military personnel, all personnel of the

army and navy, is to be at the highest level of readiness to repel aggression and rout the enemy, with an aim to victory in battle. The military oath demands this as well.

The defensive orientation of our doctrine is directly reflected in military development. The fulfillment of the plans for the restructuring of all areas of life and for the acceleration of the social and economic development of the society play a primary role in raising the defensive possibilities of the country.

The doctrinal position of the 27th CPSU Congress on the steady strengthening of the fighting potential of the army and navy is extremely important. It reveals the long-term tasks of the party's military policy and the demands of the CPSU for the restructuring and improvement of the armed forces.

The successful implementation of the contemporary military doctrine worked out by the party requires a decisive restructuring of the activity of the military personnel on behalf of the guaranteeing of a higher level of combat readiness. "Taking into account the requirements and positions of the military doctrine," notes USSR Minister of Defense Army Gen D.T. Yazov, "it is necessary to define more precisely the direction and content of the preparation of the army and navy, to determine more quickly how to train the troops under the new conditions and find ways to raise their combat readiness, and, in accordance with the June Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, to give a truly practical direction to the restructuring in the armed forces." [Footnote 16]

The Soviet military doctrine, being a model of the new thinking, has fundamental importance for the practical work of naval personnel. It cements and gives purpose to their efforts to support the high combat readiness of ships and units and provides for unity of views in the leading directions of military development.

Footnotes

1. "Voyenny entsiklopedicheskiy slovar" [Military Encyclopedic Dictionary], Moscow, Voenizdat, 1986, p 240.
2. "Pravda," 30 May 1987.
3. "Otkuda iskhodit ygroza miry" [Where Is the Threat to Peace Coming From?], fourth edition, Moscow, Voenizdat, NOVOSTI, 1987, p 17.
4. "Pravda," 20 February 1987: "Izvestiya," 23 January 1986.
5. "Materialy XXVII syezda Kommunisticheskoy partii Sovetskogo Soyuza" [Materials on the 27th CPSU Congress], Moscow, Politizdat, 1986, p 161.
6. "Pravda," 30 May 1987.

7. "Pravda," 27 July 1987.
8. "Pravda," 30 September 1987.
9. V.I. Lenin, "Polnoye sobraniye sochineniy" [Complete Collection of Works], Vol 26, p 224.
10. Lenin, op. cit., Vol 30, p 262.
11. M.S. Gorbachev, "Perestroyka i novoye myshleniye dlya nashey strany i dlya vsego mira" [Perestroyka and the New Thinking for Our Country and for the Entire World], Moscow, Politizdat, 1987, p 143.
12. "Materialy..." op. cit., p 67.
13. "Pravda," 2 October 1987.
14. "Krasnaya Zvezda," 9 May 1987.
15. "Voyennyy entsiklopedicheskiy slovar," p 561.
16. "Krasnaya Zvezda," 18 July 1987.

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Guarding the Achievements of Socialism

18010355c Moscow VESTNIK
PROTIVOVOZDUSHNOY OBORONY in Russian No
2, Feb 88 pp 3-6

[Article by Col Gen V. Silakov, member of the Defense Council and chief of the Political Department of the Air Defense Forces: "Guarding the Achievements of Socialism"]

[Text] The Soviet Armed Forces are 70 years old. In celebrating this memorable date in the history of our state, we experience the same feelings that they experienced in celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Great October. Pride in what has been done, the wonderful memory of the heroic actions of the armed defenders of the Motherland and the sorrowful memory of our losses, and thoughts about what has been achieved and about ways to resolve new problems—all of this also determines our pre-anniversary moods, actions and concerns.

In remembering the road we have traveled, it is impossible not to note at this time that our armed forces were founded from the Leninist idea of the defense of the revolutionary and socialist achievements of the people. Even before the victory of the working people in the revolution, V.I. Lenin and the party of Bolsheviks that he founded worked out the fundamental questions in the armed defense of the proletarian state. The leader of the revolution grounded and formulated its military program and taught the party and working people that every revolution is only worth something if it is able to defend

itself against the counterrevolution and aggression of imperialists and that the victorious proletariat must demonstrate its right to rule through its military organization.

Now, after 70 years of history, we can better understand the significance of Lenin's testament to be on the alert, the leader's advice that we must constantly remember that we are always on the verge of an invasion, and his warning that the bourgeoisie is prepared to commit savageries, atrocities and crimes. History has provided convincing confirmation of this.

The Workers and Peasants Red Army began its military annals on 23 February 1918. On that day, near Narva and Pskov, its first formations properly repelled the troops of imperialist Germany, which had made an attempt against the revolutionary achievements of the working class and peasantry, and defended the Soviet republic against the enemy, receiving its first baptism of fire. In 1919, in memory of this, the Soviet Government established the Day of the Red Army, which has been celebrated since then as a major national holiday.

The path of the Workers and Peasants Red Army was glorious and difficult and truly heroic. Soon the international imperialist reaction, having united with the internal opposition, treacherously invaded the borders of our Motherland with its troops. In a fierce fight lasting 3 years, the armed forces of the interventionists and white guards were completely routed. The revolution was protected and the working people of our country received the opportunity to begin the peaceful building of socialism.

Imperialism undertook the next decisive attempt to destroy the country of socialism in the twenty fourth year of the existence of Soviet authority in our country. This was precisely the task that the aggressor set for himself—to smash the Soviet socialist state. Hitler sought to destroy communism as an ideology and political movement. It was on the battlefields where the question was resolved of whether or not our nation would retain its revolutionary socialist achievements and whether the forces of progress on the earth would triumph or the forces of the most shameless reaction would get the upper hand.

The dreadful days of the Great Patriotic War went into our history as an unprecedented test of the Soviet Armed Forces and our first socialist state and soviet nation in the world. Born in battles with enemies, the Soviet Army and Navy and courageous warriors stood up to a treacherous and powerful enemy, protected the country, and defended the honor and independence of their nation.

In this way, the highest revolutionary vigilance and readiness to repel the aggressor at any time were a historic lesson, an indisputable and permanent requirement, and a law for the life and work of each military

collective and each Soviet warrior. Consequently, to remain faithful to the glorious fighting traditions of our armed forces means to support combat readiness at the highest level.

The Air Defense Forces hold a prominent place in the glorious military annals of our army and navy. In the very first days of the establishment of the Red Army, by directive of V.I. Lenin, the workers of the Putila plant built an anti-aircraft armored train and the personnel of the first air defense formation took the most active part in the battles of the civil war. In 1918, likewise at the suggestion of Vladimir Ilyich, the Central Aerohydrodynamic Institute was established, the training of personnel was organized, a special school for firing at air fleets began its work, and a directorate for the formation of anti-aircraft batteries was set up. Other measures were taken to establish and strengthen the air defense forces. All of this is evidence of the great importance that the Communist Party, Soviet Government and V.I. Lenin personally gave to air defense.

The further development of air defense was closely linked with the socialist rebuilding of the national economy of our country, in the course of which the USSR was transformed into an industrial power capable of providing its armed forces with the latest types of military equipment and weapons. Fighter aviation was developed and new aircraft appeared with advanced flying and tactical characteristics for their time. The material part of anti-aircraft artillery was modernized and new gun systems and optical range finders were built. The air defense of the country's main centers was increased and improved.

At the start of World War II, our country established a unified air defense system intended to cover the most important industrial-economic and administrative centers and major railroad junctions. Questions in the utilization of the Air Defense Forces in combat were actively developed.

The Air Defense Forces underwent intensive improvement during the years of the Great Patriotic War. The main branches of service—fighter aviation and anti-aircraft artillery—operated effectively in defending the cities and most important rear military facilities and communications against the strikes of the enemy's aircraft. An important role was also played by the units of anti-aircraft machine guns, barrage balloons, anti-aircraft searchlights and air observation, reporting and communications.

In battles against Hitler's invaders, the air defense soldiers, just as the personnel of other branches of the Soviet Armed Forces, demonstrated unprecedented mass heroism, loyalty to the ideals of socialism and an unbending will to achieve victory. They honorably fulfilled the tasks assigned to the Air Defense Forces by the Communist Party and Soviet Government. In the war years, the defenders of the Soviet skies destroyed more

than 7,300 enemy aircraft as well as more than 1,000 tanks, about 1,500 artillery pieces and mortars, and much more military equipment and troops of the enemy. The formations and units of air defense disrupted Hitler's plans to level Moscow and Leningrad through air strikes, protected many industrial and administrative centers against destruction, covered their own forces and communications against the strikes of fascist aviation, and successfully carried out many other operations, among them an air blockade of a grouping of 330,000 German fascist forces surrounded near Stalingrad.

The first Heroes of the Soviet Union in the years of the Great Patriotic War were the air defense warriors, defenders of the Leningrad skies and fighter pilots, junior lieutenants Kharitonov, Zhukov and Zdorovtsev. Air defense pilot Viktor Talalikhin was the first in the world to ram the enemy at night. Dozens of other fliers followed his example. Artillerymen, balloonists and all other representatives of the Air Defense Forces also provided models of heroism and courage.

The Communist Party and the Soviet Government highly valued the unreserved loyalty of the soldiers of the air defense to their military duty and their military valor. More than 80,000 were awarded orders and medals, 93 of them were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, 29 formations and units became guard formations and units, and 11 received names of honor.

In paying tribute of profound respect to the heroism and valor of the older generation of air defense warriors and in properly appreciating all that has been done, we are obliged today to account for how the military traditions are perceived by the warriors of our generation and how the urgent order of the front line soldiers of the Great Patriotic War to learn military science at all times and to be persistent in mastering the art of defeating any enemy is being fulfilled. We proudly pronounce the name of the communist flier Capt G. Yeliseyev, who knocked down a violator of the border by ramming him. Being worthy of the great glory of heroes, he remains for all time an example of a self-sacrificing and fearless defender of the air space of the Motherland. The honored military pilot of the USSR Col I. Zhukov, in our time awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, showed courage, self-control and bravery in fulfilling his responsible mission. There are many examples of steadfastness and loyalty to military duty being provided by aviators, flare signalers, locators, signal men, and the soldiers of all other specialties in the course of the intensive military studies and the fulfillment of the combat mission—the performance of military duty.

The flare signalers of the regiment where Lt Col A. Chursin is chief of the political section, for example, are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces with good results. For 2 years consecutively, this fighting collective has maintained the title of excellent, it

performs combat firing at the firing range with the evaluation "excellent," and has no gross violations of statutory order and military discipline.

The guards antiaircraft missile regiment in which Lt Col V. Lezin is chief of the political section is excellent. This fighting collective has many glorious deeds to its account. It is enough to say that more than 30 officers and ensigns of this regiment have been awarded state decorations in peacetime.

The excellent radiotechnical regiment where the officer V. Dobrynin serves was also awarded the Red Banner of the Moscow Gorkom of the CPSU and Moscow Soviet Ispolkom.

At the end of last year, the Defense Council organized a reception for the best soldiers of the antiaircraft rocket regiment—the initiator of competition in our forces—and of veterans of the Air Defense Forces. Some good parting words were said to the young generation along with assurances that the powerful weapons intended for repelling an aggressor are in good hands.

The glorious date of the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces coincides with the time of an exceptionally great upturn in the spiritual life of our society. In their revolutionary essence, Bolshevik boldness of plans, and humanistic social orientation, the reforms being carried out in accordance with the will of the Communist Party are a direct continuation of the historic achievements begun by the Great October Socialist Revolution. The thoughts and strivings of the air defense warriors must now be to implement the bold and innovative plans of the party, to act energetically, and to make fuller use of the existing reserves and possibilities for the further improvement of the results of military labor.

The new academic year will also be noted by such an event as the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference. It will be a decisive step of perestroyka and hence must be marked by good results in the work of military collectives and new achievements in strengthening combat readiness and improving combat instruction, military discipline and statutory order. It cannot be otherwise: in resolving the profound problems in the economy and social policy and in renewing all areas of life in the society, the Communist Party and Soviet people have the right to hope that the country's security will be reliably guaranteed and that no aggressor will be able to penetrate the air space of the Motherland.

The events of 28 May of last year and the stern but fair evaluation by the Central Committee of our party of the situation in which the unpunished violation of the air space of the USSR by a West German aircraft became possible have now been fully realized by all personnel of the Air Defense Forces. Conclusions have been drawn and the corresponding measures have been taken, which did yield results. Above all there was an increase in

responsibility for discipline and the quality of military duty as well as for statutory order and the combat training of units and formations. But what happened was a lesson for all and for all times. This lesson cannot remain a "matter of the past." It must continually remind us of the duty and honor of the defender of the air space of the Motherland.

The Central Committee of our party demands that military personnel affirm decisively the atmosphere of great activeness, organization and discipline in every formation, unit and subunit and that groundless assertions not replace action. The lessons of the past tell us that complaisance, carelessness and lack of discipline are inadmissible.

The festive anniversary moods must not mask our unresolved problems. It must be recognized that, in carrying out perestroyka, we are still doing a poor job of implementing the new approaches to the resolution of tasks, a number of units and subunits are not providing for the necessary control over high combat readiness, and little concern is being shown for the strengthening of military discipline and statutory order.

Many changes for the better have taken place in the restructuring of the work of political authorities and party and Komsomol organizations. In particular, their work was activated, a new atmosphere of relations was established in most military collectives, and they are affirming collectivism, glasnost, criticism and self-criticism, and a healthy dissatisfaction with what has been achieved. But all of these are only prerequisites or conditions for a truly far-reaching perestroyka. The reports in the party organizations on the work in perestroyka showed this.

It is necessary for us raise decisively the level of party and political work aimed at the further improvement of the combat readiness of the troops and the effectiveness of every day and hour of combat training. The focus of attention of political authorities, communists and Komsomol members must be the teaching the warriors the clear understanding that only self-sacrificing military labor, exemplary service and the greatest discipline of each soldier, sergeant, ensign and officer will permit the complete fulfillment of the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee for the Air Defense Forces.

The work with personnel performing combat duty is becoming especially important. Words as well as deeds must be specific and effective. The result must be high responsibility for the performance of the mission and the maximum mobilization of the physical and moral strengths of those warriors who have to carry out a mission directly. Negligence, excessive discretion and sluggishness in undertaking measures are signs of serious problems in the education of the people to whom complex and responsible work is entrusted.

In teaching warriors ideological steadfastness and a sense of duty to the nation, it is necessary to reveal more clearly the living link between the army and the people and, on this basis, to strive for an in-depth understanding by everyone of the importance of his military labor. The profound faith in the dependability of the defense of peaceful creative labor can be related with complete justification to the most important socialist achievements of our people. Throughout their 70-year history, the working and creative people sacrificed much in the name of the might of their armed forces. They are now justifiably convinced that the Soviet warriors have everything necessary so that they can properly repel a possible aggressor. And for this reason, unconscientious service to the Fatherland will not be forgiven above all by the people and labor collectives that sent their own representatives to the ranks of the armed forces. Every warrior must have a profound realization of all this.

In implementing the historic decisions of its 27th Congress, the CPSU is consistently and persistently carrying out the Leninist policy of peace. The system of basic views on the prevention of war, military development, the preparation of the country and armed forces to repel aggression and means of carrying on the armed struggle in defense of socialism is an example of the manifestation of the new political thinking in matters of war and peace in the nuclear age. In studying and explaining this document, one must clearly understand that the nonadmission of war and the readiness to repel an aggressor are two interrelated missions, because the imperialists are not renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons and are attempting to achieve military superiority.

The signing of the treaty between the USSR and the United States on the elimination of medium and shorter range missiles is an important step in international relations. The Soviet people are proud of the fact that this step toward mutual trust was taken at the initiative of the CPSU. All of this, of course, does not diminish but, on the contrary, emphasizes the importance of the combat readiness of the units and ships as well as of the self-sacrificing performance of his duty by each serviceman, noted USSR Minister of Defense Army Gen D.T. Yazov in a meeting with the ideological aktiv.

The Soviet Armed Forces will always stand formidably and steadfastly guarding the achievements of socialism!

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Expand Traditions, Strengthen Combat Readiness!
18010355d Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian
23 Feb 88 p 3

[Article by Col Gen K.A. Kochetov, commander of the forces of Transcaucasus Military District: "Expand Traditions, Strengthen Combat Readiness!"]

[Text] During these February days, the Soviet people and their armed defenders as well as the working people of fraternal socialist countries are triumphantly celebrating

the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy. The 70th anniversary of the Armed Forces of the USSR is the triumph of the Leninist teaching on the defense of the socialist Fatherland and the triumph of the policies of the CPSU in military development.

In their time, K. Marx and F. Engels and later V.I. Lenin believed that the national militia would be the defender of the revolution. But the specific historical conditions in which the Country of the Soviets arose dictated a different solution. The civil war and foreign intervention that were imposed upon the people required the establishment of a military organization capable of defending the achievements of October. And it was established. On 15 January 1918, the Council of People's Commissars passed a decree on the establishment of the Workers and Peasants Red Army and, on 29 January, on the organization of the Workers and Peasants Red Navy.

The army matured and became stronger in the fierce battles with the interventionists and white guards. In the central regions of the country, in the steppes of the Ukraine and Volga area, on the Don and Kuban, along the White Sea and in the Caucasus Mountains, in the sands of Central Asia and in the Amur River region—the sons of all the peoples of our Fatherland fought side by side against the enemy under its red standards. Together they went to battle for peace, bread and land, for the authority of the soviets.

A monument to the legendary 11th Army that provided invaluable help to the working people of the Transcaucasus in the establishment of Soviet authority rises on one of the squares of the city of Baku as a symbol of revolutionary valor and in memory of the glorious fighting actions of the Red Army soldiers. The predecessor of our district, it dependably defended the southern boundaries of the country during the years of peaceful construction and was in the first ranks of the formations of the Red Army in combat and political training.

The peaceful respite gave our party the possibility on the basis of the successes in building socialism to ensure a further increase in the military might of the army and navy and to prepare them for the struggle with fascism, the most powerful force of imperialism.

The Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union was one of the most glorious and heroic pages in the annals of the armed forces. It was written with the heroism of the warriors of all nations and nationalities of our country that liberated Europe from Hitler's enslavement. It is a page written with the talent of the outstanding commanders G.K. Zhukov, A.M. Vasilevskiy, I.S. Konev, K.K. Rokossovskiy and many others, whose experience is studied even today by the defenders of the Motherland. It is a page that fully revealed the leading and guiding force of our party.

The military deeds of the soldiers of the Transcaucasus are also written in golden letters on this glorious page. It was with honor that the formations and units of the Transcaucasus front carried their banners along the roads of the war.

The Armed Forces of the USSR played a decisive role in the utter defeat of the dark forces of German fascism and Japanese militarism.

Imperialism did not renounce military preparations against the USSR and other countries of the socialist community. And even now, when, as a result of the signing of the treaty between the USSR and United States on the elimination of medium and shorter range missiles, a start has been made on the real destruction of nuclear weapons, the military-industrial complex of the United States and other NATO countries is doing everything possible to hinder the process of detente.

In the speech of M.S. Gorbachev at the CPSU Central Committee Plenum concluded a few days ago, it was noted that the treaty signed in Washington is also a consequence of the prudent and expedient position of many politicians and representatives of the business world and military circles but that its signing is not a pretext for reassurance and complacency. Very soon after the first euphoric days, the opponents of the normalization of relations with the USSR began to "call to arms," mobilizing their forces for the fight against the ratification of the treaty. We again had provocations along our borders.

The Soviet Armed Forces never had objectives contradicting the peace-loving course of our country in foreign policy. By their very nature, they cannot act and never did act as a tool of aggression. The military doctrine of the Soviet State, just as that of the other Warsaw Pact member countries, is especially defensive in nature and is aimed at defense against an external attack. Its political side proceeds from the necessity of peaceful coexistence and the prevention of war. It is based on the Leninist position that any revolution is only worthwhile when it is able to defend itself.

Thanks to the concern of the party and the selfless labor of the people, the Armed Forces of the USSR are continuously being supplied with the most up-to-date types of weapons and military equipment, their organization and structure are being improved, and military science is being developed. Fundamental changes in the means, methods and forms of the armed struggle raised many questions about the life and activities of the troops in a new way and required a serious restructuring. On the basis of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and in

accordance with the aims of the minister of defense of the USSR, the armed forces are expanding their fight for the complete overcoming of signs of stagnation.

The work in our district is being restructured. It is aimed at raising combat readiness, the further improvement of field and air training, and the strengthening of organization and order. Socialist competition is well under way under the motto "Self-sacrificing Military Labor, Exemplary Service and the Highest Discipline—Our Contribution to the Defense of the Motherland." Definite results have been achieved in the intensification of the educational process and in approximating it to the conditions of contemporary battle.

Communists and Komsomol members set the tone of combat training. They are in the vanguard of those competing and see their main task in tireless improving combat skills on behalf of the defense of the Motherland and its southern borders. The political activity of soldiers in military collectives is increasing, a very demanding spirit is being affirmed, and discipline is improving.

At the present time, one must not forget for even a minute that the military theoreticians of imperialism consider the suddenness of attack to be one of the basic prerequisites of success. Irresponsibility, diminished vigilance, placidity and complacency are therefore inadmissible. The main task of the day is to be completely ready for any contingencies and to prepare for this continuously at all levels. And throughout the entire 70-year history of the Soviet Armed Forces, besides their basic function of defending the Motherland against external enemies, they have been fulfilling still another important task. They serve as a school for the maturation of youths, as a school for the ideological-moral and physical toughening of young people, and as a school for the education of citizens as conscientious builders and defenders of socialism. The graduates of the Baku Combined-Arms Academy and Heroes of the Soviet Union V. Neverov, A. Chernozhukov and I. Ploskonos were toughened in this school. The holders of the Order of the Red Banner E. Agayev and A. Safaryan went through it. It inspired Z. Chlachidze and R. Mamedov to heroic deeds.

The Soviet Armed Forces have rich traditions. Their entire history is evidence of the unreserved loyalty of warriors to their patriotic and international duty. It is not only a great honor to be a defender of the Fatherland but also a tremendous responsibility. The nation is entrusting its army with the most valuable thing of all, the country's freedom and independence. And to justify this trust, it is necessary to be tenacious and persistent in mastering military affairs, to fulfill service obligations conscientiously, and to guard and expand the heroic traditions of the Soviet Armed Forces and our native district.

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